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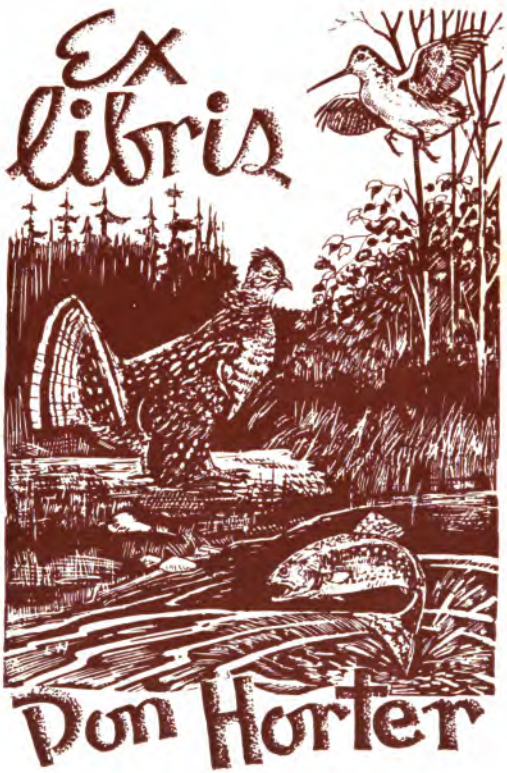

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WALLWORK'S

MODERN ANGLER.

1847.

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THE MODERN ANGLER;

COMPRISING

ANGLING IN ALL ITS BRANCHES:

BEING THE RESULT OF MORE THAN THIRTY YEAR'S PRACTICE AND STRICT OBSERVATION; TOGETHER WITH REMARKS ON THE VARIOUS RIVERS IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES.

IN TWO PARTS.

PART I.—Describing the Materials necessary for Making Artificial Flies and Palmer Worms; with a choice list of the most killing Flies on the various Waters of Great Britain and Ireland, and the different seasons for using them; including Natural Fly-fishing; with the Author's Remarks on the subject.

PART II.—A Full Description of the different kinds of Fish taken by angling; their Haunts, Seasons, Spawning Times, Baits, Biting Times, and how to Angle for each kind; with the Names of the Principal Rivers in the Three Kingdoms, the Counties through which they Run, and the different kinds of Fish each river contains.

THE WHOLE FORMING A WORK OF REAL UTILITY.

ILLUSTRATED WITH COPPER-PLATE ENGRAVINGS.

BY JAMES WALLWORK.

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PREFACE.

THE art of angling has been practised for ages past, and at times we find the most experienced anglers at fault, though being more practised than their less fortunate brethren, sooner recover their position in the silent warfare. Being strongly urged by some of my friends to publish a treatise on this most innocent and recreative amusement, I have complied with their request, and now lay before the lovers of the rod and line more than thirty year's experience, in as concise and lucid a manner as my humble abilities will allow. I should have hesitated to follow the different writers on this subject, had I not been confident there was room for improvement—a few of which, I believe, I have been able to supply. You will find that the flies and baits, and the different methods of angling that I shall in the course of this work enumerate, will take salmon, trout, greyling, pike, or other fish, in any river in the united kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland, if care and strict attention be paid to the precepts I shall put forth.

The system I have laid down in the course of this work for making the different flies, will supersede any thing of the sort that I have seen in any previous publication. There is one particular point I wish to draw attention to,—viz., the method I take to strip the feather with which I make the winged fly, for by that means the wings will be parted when the fly is made, without the trouble of whipping the silk across two or three times, which I have seen recommended, and will be a much neater fly, and swim a great deal lighter.

All the rules that I have laid down are so plain and explicit, that the young angler will find no difficulty in ascertaining the full meaning of my views, and the best of anglers will have some good pickings from the labours of their humble servant,

THE AUTHOR

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APPENDIX.

In the first part of this work I shall give a description of the materials requisite for the artificial flies, palmers, and beetles, and the best methods for making them. You must note that my flies are not encumbered with much dubbing, (as I have so seen it recommended) but is used very sparingly, the silk being as near the colour of the fly's body as I can get it, and the dubbing is to give it the requisite shade, and that transparent appearance which is observable in most of the flies; therefore I dispense with the bear's hair and hog's down, which some mix in their dubbing, for they require something to keep their flies from sinking, when we look at the quantity of dubbing they use for the thick bodies of their flies. Neatness is to be observed in all your flies and tackle, and be rather under than over nature in the size of them. The salmon flies alone, in a great measure, are to be made gaudy, and according to the angler's fancy; but as I shall treat more largely upon them in the course of this work, I will say no more about them at present.

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THE

MODERN ANGLER.

PART I.

CHAPTER 1.—A Few Remarks on Fly-fishing, and the Materials that are Requisite for Making Artificial Flies; and the Best Methods of Making them.

I commence first with fly-fishing, because I consider it the most recreative and amusing; for the angler is not confined to any particular part of the river, but follows the stream in all its windings, through embowering groves and rocky glades, where the waters are bounding from rock to rock in a variety of fantastic forms—throwing the spray (that reflects through the sun's rays all the various hues of the rainbow,) all around, at the same time giving out a refreshing coolness that amply repays the angler for any inconvenience he might experience in obtaining such a wished-for retirement, and opens an ample field for the meditative mind to ponder upon the glorious and wonderful works of a bountiful Creator; the solemnity of the scene, together with the continual buz from myriads of insects, and the water's ruffled surface, formed by the bounding trout, give to the heart of the angler such feelings of delight, which are far be-

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yond the power of words to express, and which, I believe, no other mortal ever experienced. Even now, whilst I vainly attempt to describe the effect that such scenes have upon a true lover of the angle, my heart feels ready to bound from its narrow tenement and flee to those sylvan scenes wherein I have spent hundreds of happy hours.

MATERIALS FOR MAKING ARTIFICIAL FLIES.

In the first place you must provide a quantity of feathers as follows: Young grouse, from under the wings, that are of a fine dark dun or lead colour; as the bird grows older these feathers change to a white, then they are of no use. But if it be a young cock, you will find some fine spotted brown feathers upon each side of the breast, which will be found of great service. An old cock has excellent feathers on the back and but of his wings; likewise those red ones from the throat and breast. Feathers from the woodcock, both under and over the wings; snipes, from under the wings, which are of a fine dun; fieldfare and thrush-wings; starlings, both wings and body; swifts (by some called long-wings and by others squealers; they are a large species of swallow, of a dirty brown colour;) Cuckoos, from the back; partridges, from the back and tail; young pigeons, from the but of the wing, of a fine light blue dun colour; sea-swallows, from the back and wings; mallards, herons, blackbirds, from the but of the wings; buff and blue dun hen-feathers, from the back and but of the wing (pullets are the best, because they are much smaller than old ones); landrails,

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plover-wings; dottrail-wings; merlin-hawk, from back and wings; tom-tit tails; the mottled feathers of a turkey; feathers from under the peahen's wings; golden pheasant feathers; and many foreign birds afford good feathers for the salmon-flies; also wren-tails and a variety of other birds; indeed, there is scarcely a bird that flies but you may find useful.

DUBBING.

FOR DUBBING you must provide lamb's-wool and mohair of all colours; squirrel-fur (you will find where I mention orange-wool for dubbing in some of the brown flies, that the red squirrel will answer as well;) hare's ear, face, and back of the neck; water-rat; buff ferrit; martin's yellow fur (the buff ferrit will be equal to the martin's yellow fur when dipped in a liquid which I shall hereafter mention;) blue rabbit's-fur; turkey-carpets have a great variety of good colours; gold and silver-twist, pheasant's-tail feathers; hackles of all colours from the head and neck of the domestic cock; harl from the long tail-feathers of the peacock, ostrich, harl, &c.

SILKS—of all colours, such as weavers call suits or weft, which is much better than sewing-silk: it will be required to be folded three or four times, and may be had at most of the silk manufactories; fine round horse-hair and silkworm gut, shoemaker's wax, and hooks of various sizes. If there be anything which I have omitted, add it to your collection as soon as you have discovered it.

The materials for making the fly are poetically

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described by Mr. Gay, in the following lines:—

"To frame the little animal, provide
All the gay hues that wait on female pride;—
Let nature guide thee—sometimes golden wire
The shining bellies of the fly require;
The peacock's plume thy tackle must not fail—
Nor the dear purchase of the sable's tail
Each gaudy bird some slender tribute brings,
And lends the growing insect proper wings;
Silks of all colours must their aid impart,
And every fur promote the fisher's art."

As small hooks and feathers are apt to cramp the fingers, I have provided a small vice and pair of tweezers; the former to hold the hook, and the latter to hold the feathers. To make the vice, provide a piece of steel or iron half an inch broad, eighth of an inch thick, and five inches long; double it so that the ends be brought level and the sixteenth of an inch asunder; then fix a screw three-quarters of an inch from the point, and it will be complete. To make the tweezers, take a piece of brass or iron wire the eighth of an inch thick, four or five inches long, flatten the ends of it, and double it something like a pair of sugar-tongues with the ends crossed over each other; file the sides so that the ends will fit close, and open when pressed with the finger and thumb. You will find these of great service, not only in holding the hook and feather, but in keeping the silk clean as it ought to be. In the next place provide some strong round horse hair or fine silk-worm gut, though I prefer using the hair, as being so much lighter and not freying like gut. A pocket-book is indispensable to hold your various kinds of tackle.

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WINGED AND HACKLED FLIES,—PALMER WORMS.

In the next place I will describe to you the method of making both WINGED and HACKLED FLIES, together with the PALMER WORMS.—We will now consider that you have got all the materials requisite for making the fly; such as a patridge's feather from the back, with the downy part stripped off, and just as much feather left as will make the wings. Hold the tip of the feather between the finger and thumb of your right hand, and draw the fibres back with your left hand so that they stand the contrary way; take a quarter of a yard of fine pale orange silk, and with a bit of shoemaker's wax, rub about two inches at one end; fix a number 1 hook in the vice with the point downwards and the shank towards your right hand, then with the waxed end of your silk give two or three laps round the hook, and take your gut or hair, putting one end under the shank better than half way, give a few laps round both hook and hair till it comes to the end of the shank and about two laps towards the bend to form the head of the fly, then take the feather and put the tip end on the back of the hook where you left the silk, keeping the root end towards your right hand, and that side up that grew downwards on the bird, lap your silk three times round the feather, gut, and hook, then cut off the tip of the feather that lies beyond the last lap of the silk, and place the finger and thumb close to the feather, still holding the vice in the left hand, and with the tweezers take hold of the root end of the feather, keeping the inside towards the left hand, then with the right, lap it

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round the hook, keeping the laps close together till all the fibres are wound on the hook, then with two or three laps of the silk fasten the root end of the feather and cut it off; again lap the silk till you come near the bend of the hook, keeping the fibres of the feather from under the silk by drawing them back with your mouth; take a small bit of fur from the back of a hare's neck and twist it rouud the silk very sparingly, so that the silk will show through it; lap till you come to the wings, and with two halches fasten; cut off the the silk, and the fly is completed, and one that will kill nearly throughout the season from the middle of May to the end of October. This fly I call the partridge-rump and a hackle-fly.

We will now try to make a WINGED one.—In the first place take the quill feather, say from the starling's wing, fix and use your silk and gut as in the other fly, (only the silk must be a dark instead of a light orange) then take your feather after stripping the down from it, and separate from the other part as much as will make the wings, then with your finger and thumb divide that part you intend for the wings backward, so that each wing will be equal and lie back to back, strip it from the stem, hold it firm, and place the root end of the feather towards the bend and on the back of the hook, then with the finger and thumb of your left hand hold the root end of the feather secure till with the finger and thumb of your right hand you whip the silk two or three times round towards your left hand, then cut off the root and whip down to near the bend of

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the hook, take one strand of a peacock's tail feather and whip your silk once or twice round it; lap the strand three times round the tail, secure it with your silk, and clip off the end, then wind your silk round till you come to the fastening on of the wings, and with the finger and thumb of your left hand, take the wings (which have till now been lying with the points towards your right hand) and turn them towards the bend of the hook and hold them down; after which, with the silk give two or three laps round the head, so as to make the wings lie down in their proper place, give one lap under the wing, then take a small red hackle, strip the down from the root end, place it under the wings with the root towards the bend of the hook, and that side up which grew downwards on the bird, then give three laps over the root end with your silk and cut it off, then with your tweezers take hold of the tip of the feather and whip it two or three times round under the wings, then with your silk fasten it by two or three laps, cut the tip end of your feather off, fasten your silk with two halches, and the fly is completed, which I call the red ant.—The hook, a No. 1.

Now for the Palmer Worm.—Take your hook No. 2; (though in some cases you might use a larger one) fix it in your vice as before, then take half a yard of red silk, wax it gently all over, then take it by the middle and lap one end three or four times round the shank of the hook towards your right hand; put your gut on as before, then whip your silk to near the bend of the hook, and take the strand of a peacock's tail feather, (which I

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call peacock-harl,) fasten one end with the silk, then twist it round the silk and lap both silk and harl nearly to the shank end of the hook, fasten the harl and cut off that part which is too long; then take a fine red cock hackle, strip off the down, and put the root end on the head with the light side up and the tip towards your right hand, fasten it well down with the silk, and with two halches fasten the silk and cut it off; then with your tweezers take hold of the tip of the feather and wind it round the hook and harl until it comes to near the bend of the hook where you left the other end of the silk, and let your tweezers hang down till with two laps of the silk you fasten the end of the feather, cut off the tip end, and with two halches fasten the silk, cut of the end, and it is completed, and will kill most of the summer months in any river in England.

BRACKIN-CLOCK.

We will now make a BRACKIN-CLOCK, a fly of the beetle tribe. There are a many kinds, some with black, others brown or red wings; most of them have a black body and dun wings under the husk, which starts out at the tail of the fly, some not being able to cover them when they fall on the water; therefore when you make the black ones, put a few dun fibres from the wing of a starling on the tail when you tie on the husk, so that it will stand a little beyond the wings; the red ones are always covered when at rest. Now to begin, fix in your vice a No. 1 hook, then wax about a foot of green silk, proceed as in the palmer-worm until the fastening on of the wings, only you must whip on a strand of black

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ostrich harl, as well as peacock harl, then take the red tail feather of a partridge and strip of as much as will make the husks, then with the root end towards your right hand and the light side up, with the end of the silk that lies at the bend of the hook whip down the root end of the feather and clip them off, then take the tip of the feather in the finger and thumb of your right hand and bend it back till it comes to the end of the shank where the other end of the silk lies, hold them firm with the finger and thumb of your left hand, and whip them down; you have now one end whipt down at the bend of the hook and the other end at the shank; clip off the ends, fasten the silk, clip off the end, and your fly is completed. This fly kills very well at times during most part of the season.

SALMON FLIES.

We will now make a Salmon Fly.—In the first place you must get a No. 10 hook, (though some are larger and some smaller. Hooks for salmon-flies should be stronger than those for trout,) hold it between the finger and thumb of your left hand, or in the vice, take about twelve or fourteen inches of red or brown silk of a proper thickness, wax it from end to end, then hold the silk by the middle with your right hand, letting about four or five inches of it hang down between the finger and thumb of your left hand, whip four or five times round the shank end of the hook with that part you hold in your right hand, and take about two inches of strong gut, double the ends together and lay them on the shank of the hook so that the loop will project a quarter of an inch from the shank end, then with

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the long end of the silk whip it securely down to near the bend of the hook, then take a bit of dark red or brown mohair, or wool, sufficient for the body of the fly, lay one end of it upon the shank of the hook within the eighth of an inch from the shank end, fasten it down with three or four laps of the silk you left hanging there, then wind the dubbing round the hook, pretty thick where you begin, and tapering down to near the bend of the hook, fasten that end down with the silk you left hanging; if there be more dubbing than is required, cut it off, then take a piece of gold flattened wire, fasten one end with the silk you left at the shank of the hook, then wind the wire round the dubbing, but not very close together, till it comes to where you left the other end of the silk, and fasten it down; next get a fine dark red cock hackle, strip off the down from the thick end, then place that end on the hook near to the shank, with that side up which grew next to the bird, fasten it down with the silk you left at that end, and wind it neatly round the body of the fly rather close where you begin, then even between the laps of the wire till it comes to the end of the body, then fasten that end down with the silk you left at that end, and take a small bit of mohair half an inch long, of a yellow or red colour, place it on the back of the hook at the tail end of the body, fasten one end of it down with three or four laps of the silk, then whip two or three laps under it, fasten the silk with two or three halches and cut it off; see that the body and hackle lie neat and straight on the hook; if there be any loose or straggling ends, cut them off. You must now get a fine mottled feather from a turkey, and after separa-

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ting from the other part as much as will do for the wings, take hold of it with the finger and thumb of your left hand, doubling it inwards so that each wing will lie inside to inside, then strip it from the stem, and place them upon the back of the hook with the root end of the feather to the end of the shank, then with that end of the silk you still have hanging, whip them down with four or five laps, and cut the root ends off, then whip to the end of the shank, and that will form the head, whip back again and separate the wings, then fasten the silk with two or three halches; cut off the end and the fly is completed. This fly may be varied by lapping peacock and ostrich harl round the body; others by lapping it round the head; and others again round the head and tail; and some by lapping the same kind of dubbing round the head that you made the body with. As I shall not class the salmon-flies with those of the trout, I will here give you a list of those best adapted for general use. The flies which are numbered refer to those in the Engraving.

No. 1.—This fly must be made as follows:—The body is made of two colours of wool or mohair, a small portion of blue under the wings and near the tail, the remaining part black, with gold twist and a black cock hackle, wound round the body, warped with red silk; tail, red; wings, the fine mottled feather of a turkey.

No. 2.—The body dubbed with blue and yellow mohair, mixed with a little yellow towards the tail, warped with red silk, gold flattened wire, and a black cock hackle under the wings, and a ginger or buff one down the body, with a light mottled grey feather from a mallard.

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No. 3.—Body dubbed under the wings with brown and red mohair or wool mixed together, the middle of the body black and towards the tail light brown, the tag of the tail red, warped with brown silk, gold twist, and a dark red cock's hackle; the wings are made with the feather from a turkey of a pale buff colour and large black spots.

No. 4.—The body dubbed with dark red wool under the wings, the remaining part of the body black with a deep orange tag at the tail, warped with brown silk, silver twist, and a black cock's hackle; the wings are made with a black feather of the turkey, tipt with white at the ends.

No. 5.—Body dubbed with bright brown wool or mohair, warped with red silk, gold twist, and a red cock's hackle, with three laps of copper-coloured peacock's harl round the tail and head, the tag of the tail a bright orange colour; the wings are made with the brown spotted feather of a mallard.

The next is made as follows:—The body is dubbed with fur from the back of a hare, neck warped with brown silk; copper-coloured peacock harl and a deep red cock's hackle for legs, the tag of the tail yellow mohair; the wings are made with a darkish brown speckled feather of a bittern's wing.

The next fly is made with light brown and gold-coloured mohair mixed for the body, warped with gold twist and red silk, with a red head and orange tail, the wings are made with the mottled feather of a peacock's wing, the legs are made with a black and a red cock's hackle; warp the black hackle on before the red one.

The body of the next fly is made with lead-coloured

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mohair, lead-coloured silk warped with gold twist, and a cock's hackle dyed a deep blue, the head and tail same colour as the body; it must have two pair of wings, the undermost made with part of a red brown mottled feather from a mallard, and the uppermost with the blue feather of a heron.

You may begin the season with these flies, and indeed you may use them successfully to the end, though in the warmer months, Salmon often fancy something more showy; therefore you must provide for them. Your flies then must be dressed in the most glittering plumage that can be produced; both foreign and British birds will be called into requisition to make their gaudy wings; their bodies must be adorned with gold, silver, and all the richest colours of silk; whatever they take them for I cannot say, though there are many colours of dragon flies, and some say they are taken for them and for butterflies.

These flies must be made upon smaller hooks than the others, though there is no particular size for them, for some may be made larger and some smaller than those in the engraving.

The loop at the head of the fly is to loop the end of your lash or bottom; for you must only use one at a time, and by being looped you can soon change it if it should not answer to your liking.

All fish of the salmon kind will take these flies, and sometimes large trout will rise at them.

I have now given you a description of most of the materials requisite for artificial fly-making; these, together with your own observations, if neatness be observed, will in

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a short time make you a good and skilfull fly-maker. In the next chapter I will give you a description of the different flies with which I am acquainted, and the best method of dubbing them; together with the different seasons for using them from the beginning of March to the end of October. I shall begin with March, though it will not be so pleasant, nor your sport so general, as in April, for then—

COLD WINTER'S PAST.

Cold winter's past, the spring is here,
The brooks are frozen now no more;
We hail the season with a cheer,
As our fathers were wont of yore.
The angler's heart with joy doth fill,
To see the streams with freedom flow;
Likewise the natives of the rill
Wantonly sporting to and fro.

The joys we feel no tongue can tell,
For 'tis beyond expression far:
We wander through the flowery dell,
From every noisy town afar;
Our hearts are light and full of glee—
We gaily throw the feathered hook
Beneath some overhanging tree,
To tempt the monarch of the the brook.

Aloft in air the insects glide,
And various flies in crowds appear;
Whilst thousands line the river side,
And throng the boughs that's waving there.
The pleasant meads with verdure crown'd,
Such beauty strikes the wand'ring view,
That bounteous nature there is found,
In every sport we may pursue.

We angle by the river's side,
The finny tribe but to ensnare—
Feathers and hair we do provide,
Selected with the nicest care

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We've rods and lines, and baskets too,
And books well stored to form the fly;
With silks and furs of every hue,
That deck the rainbow far on high.

Our flies upon the surface play,
So lightly in the curling stream,
And in the eddies roll away,
That's sparkling through the sunny beam!
We angle, from the rise of sun
Until its beams the mountains hide;
And when our busy sport is done,
Reluctant leave the river side.

CHAPTER 2.—DESCRIPTION OF THE DIFFERENT FLIES, AND THE WINGS AND DUBBING OF EACH.

THERE are many flies that you may make either as hackles or winged flies, I will therefore give you a description of the feathers for both; likewise in plate 2 shall give you a copy of some of the principal flies.

MARCH.

1 RED MOOR COCK.
2 OLD JOAN.
3 LARGE SPRING DUN.
4 DUN CUT.
5 EARLY COW DUNG FLY.
6 SPRING BROWN.

HACKLED FLIES.

1.—Dubbed with dark red wool or mohair under the wings, whipt with dark red silk; wings, feather from the back of a moor cock—hook No. 2.

2.—Dubbed with dark purple brown mohair or wool, whipt with dark red silk; wings, a feather from under a

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woodcock's wing—hook No. 2. This fly is an excellent killer, and continues on, till the end of June.

3.—Dubbed with blue rabbit fur very sparingly from the tail to the middle, so that the silk will show through, then from the middle to the wings with a little buff ferrit fur; wings, feather from the back of a dun hen, warpt with pale primrose silk—hook No. 2. This fly kills best morning and evening.

No. 4.—Dubbed with fur from the back of a hare's ear or neck, whipt with pale yellow silk; wings, feather from under the woodcock's wing—hook No. 2. This fly continues to the end of May.

5.—Dubbed with a dirty lemon-coloured wool, whipt with yellow silk; wings, feather from the back of a partridge of a pale brown colour—hcok No. 2.

6.—Dubbing in this fly is dispensed with: whipt with a dark brown drab silk: wings, feather from under the woodcock's wing—hook No. 2. A good killer till the middle of June.

WINGED FLIES.

2.—Dubbing and silk as in the hackle; wings, the wing feather of a woodcock, with a dirty dark red coloured cock hackle, warpt under the wings—hook No. 2.

3.—Dubbing and silk as in the hackle; wings, feather from the starling or fieldfare, with a pale buff hackle from a cock or hen, wrapt under the wings—hook No. 2.

4.—Dubbing and silk as in the hackle; wings, feather from the woodcock's wing, with a pale buff hackle under the wing—hook No. 2.

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6.—Silk as in the hackle-fly; wings, feather from the woodcock's wing, with a brown hackle under the wings—hook No. 2.

APRIL.

ALL the flies of the other month, together with the following:—

1 SMALL SPRING DUN.	3 BROWN PARTRIDGE.
2 SPRING BLACK.	4 GREEN TAIL.

HACKLED FLIES,

1.—Dubbing, blue rabbit fur, lapt sparingly on primrose or sulphur-coloured silk; wing, feather from under the wing of a young moor-cock—hook No. 1.

2.—Body made with dark red silk; wings, feather from the back of a starling—hook No. 1. This fly continues till the end of May.

3.—Dubbing, snuff coloured wool, whipt with bright brown silk; wings, feather from the back of a partridge—hook No. 1.

4.—Dubbing, from a hare's face, whipt with ash coloured silk; wings, feather from under the woodcock's wing—hook No. 1. You may fish with this from sunrise till noon if the weather be warm, and the day a bright one, and from four in the afternoon till sunset.

WINGED FLIES.

1.—Dubbing and silk the same as in the hackle fly; wings, feather from the starling's wing, and pale buff hackle under wing.

3.—Dubbing and silk as in the hackle fly; wings, feather

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from the partridge's wing, dark red hackle under wings—hook No. 1.

4.—Dubbing and silk as in the hackle fly; wings, feather from the partridge's wing, and a grizelled hackle under the wings—hook No. 1.

MAY.

1 TAILEY-TAIL,
2 COCKING DUN.
3 SKYFLY.
4 LITTLE IRON BLUE.
5 BROWN SHINER.
6 SHORN FLY.
7 SAND NAT.

HACKLED FLIES.

1.—Body whipt with ruby-coloured silk, or something the colour of parboiled meat; the wings are made from the feathers of the back of a longwing—hook No. 0. This fly continues till the end of August.

2.—Dubbing, martin's yellow fur under the wings, warped with pale primrose silk; wings, feather from the back of a young pale-blue pigeon, or a feather from a sea swallow—hook No. 1.

3.—Whipt with a pale sky-blue silk; wings, feather from the back of a hen blackbird—hook No. 0. This fly kills well to the middle of June.

4.—Dubbing, water-rat fur warped with violet coloured silk; wings, feather from the but of the wing or tail of a tomtit; this fly must be made very fine. It is a good killer to the end of June, in cold dull days. If winged, one lap of a dirty yellow hackle under the wings.

5.—Body warped with orange silk, and a strand of

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peacock's feather warped with it; wings, feather from the back of a woodcock—hook No. 1. This fly will kill very well to the end of July.

6.—Warped with red silk, and a peacock harl warped with it; wings, feather of a red cock's hackle with a black list up the middle of it. This fly continues to the end of August.

7.—Dubbing, water rat fur, warped with lead coloured silk, feather from the neck of a dun hen which is dun in the middle and black on the edges—hook No. 2.

JUNE.

1 BANK FLY.
2 PARTRIDGE RUMP.
3 ORANGE BROWN.
4 ORANGE DUN.
5 BLACK SHINER.
6 BRACKIN CLOCK.

HACKLED FLIES.

1.—Dubbing, a little dark orange wool under the wings, warped with orange silk; wings, feather from under the wing of a landrail or a buff hen—hook No. 1. This fly kills best in the clearing of the water.

2.—Dubbing, fur from the back of hare's ear, twisted sparingly round the silk, that is of a pale orange colour; wings, feather from the back of a partridge—hook No. 1. This fly is taken from the beginning of May to the end of August.

3. Dubbing, deep orange wool under the wing, warped with deep orange silk; wings, feather from the back of a partridge—hook No. 1. This fly is an excellent killer, and is taken to the end of September.

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4.—Body warped with pale orange silk; wings, feather from under a young grouse-wing of a dun colour—hook No. 1. This fly is a good killer to the end September.

5.—Body made with lead coloured silk and peacock harl; wings, feather from the back of a long wing—hook No. 0 or 1.

6.—The body of this fly is made and warped with dark green silk peacock and black ostrich harl, twisted together; the husks or wings are made with a red feather from the tail of a partridge—hook No. 1. This fly kills to the end of August,

WINGED FLIES.

(THE BRACKIN CLOCK AS ABOVE.)

1.—Body orange silk; wing; feather from a buff hen and a red cockle hackle, warped two or three times under the wing.

4.—Body warped with pale orange silk; wings, feather from the wing of a starling, with a buff hackle under the wing.

JULY.

1 Buff Dun.
2 Red Ant Fly.
3 Spanish Needle.
4. Red Breeches.
5. Black Ant,
6. Stream Fly.

HACKLED FLIES.

1.—Dubbing, buff ferrit warped with buff silk;

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wings, feather from a dun hen—hook No. 1. This fly takes very well in May and June.

2.—Body orange silk with two or three laps round the tail of peacock's copper harl; wings, feather from a young moor cock under the wing—hook No. 1.

3.—Body pale brown silk; wings, feather from the but of a starling's wing of a pale sooty colour—hook No. 1. This fly kills well in May and August.

4.—Body black silk with black ostrich harl wound round, and one lap of red wool under the wings, leaving the ends to start out; wings, a dark dun hen's feather—hook No. 2. This fly takes to the end of August.

5.—Body brown silk, with a strand of ostrich harl wound two or three times round the tail; wings, feather from a sea swallow's-wing—hook No. 1. This fly, as well as the red one, will kill well from the middle of June to the end of September in warm gloomy days.

6.—Dubbing water rat fur, warped with lead coloured silk; wings, feather from the back of a young cuckoo—hook No. 1.

WINGED FLIES.

1.—Dubbing and silk the same as in the hackle fly; wings, feather from the wing of a starling, and a buff hackle under the wing.

2.—Dubbing and silk the same as in the hackle fly; wings, feather from the wing of a starling, with a red hackle under the wing.

3.—Silk, the same as in the hackle fly, wings, dark feather from the wing of a starling, with a grizzled hackle under the wings,

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4.—Dubbing and silk as in the hackle fly; wings, dark part of a starling's wing-feather, with a buff cock hackle, dyed a deep red colour under the wings.

5.—Dubbing and silk the same as in the hackle fly; wings, feather from a sea swallow's wing, with a black hackle under the wings.

The above-mentioned flies kill as well, if not better, than the hackle flies.

AUGUST.

1 YELLOW DUN.
2 BLUE DUN.
3 RED SPINNER.
4 LITTLE WHIRLING BLUE.

HACKLED FLIES.

1.—Dubbing, martin's yellow fur under the wings, warped with gold-coloured silk: wings, feather from a dun hen—hook No. 1. This fly is taken to the end of next month, and is taken well in April.

2.—Dubbing, pale blue rabbit fur and buff ferrit fur, mixed and twisted very sparingly round primrose silk; wings, feather from a pale blue pigeon—hook No. 1.

WINGED FLIES.

3.—Body with dark red mohair, warped with a dark red silk, and ribbed with gold flattened wire; wings, feather from a starlings wing, and a red hackle under the wings—hook No. 2.

4.—Dubbed very sparingly with red squirrel's fur, warped with pale yellow silk; wings, feather from the

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starling's wing, and a red hackle under the wings—hook No. 1.

You may make the yellow dun as follows:—Body gold coloured silk; wings, feather from a starling, and a yellow hackle under the wings.

SEPTEMBER.

1 BLACK NAT. | 3 LITTLE PALE BLUE.
2 RUSSET FLY. | 4 WREN TAIL.

HACKLED FLIES.

1.—The body is made with a strand from the long black feather of a cock's tail, warped with black silk; wings, a light feather from under the starling's wing; if you wing it the same kind of feathers will do—hook No. 1. This fly will kill very well in spring, and is an excellent fly for greyling through this month and next.

2.—Dubbing, the back of a hare's neck, warped with deep orange silk: wings, feather from under a peahen's wing—(you may at times find feathers of the same colour amongst barn-door fowl)—hook No. 2. This is an excellent fly both for trout and greyling.

3.—Dubbing, very pale blue rabbit fur, warped sparingly round pale primrose silk; wings, feather from a pale blue dun hen, or a sea swallow—hook No. 1. This fly is a good killer to the end of the season; greyling are very fond of them.

4.—Body, warped with orange silk, and peacock's harl

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warped twice under the wings; wings, feather from the wren's tail—hook No. 6.

OCTOBER.

1 WILLOW CRICKET. || 2 WILLOW FLY.

HACKLED FLIES.

1.—Dubbing, fur from the back of a hare's neck, twisted sparingly round pale orange silk; wings, feather from the breast of an old moor cock of a ruddy colour—hook No. 1.

2.—Dubbing, blue squirrel fur twisted sparingly round pale yellow silk; wings, feather from the neck of a dark dun hen—hook No. 1. These, together with the flies of the last month, concludes the season of fly-fishing, more particularly the black nat, the russet fly, the little pale blue, and the willow cricket. With these flies I durst be bound to take any day a dish of fish, through this month, if the weather is favourable.

I have here given you a list of forty-seven as good flies as ever were thrown on the water; and if used as I shall hereafter direct, will kill trout, greyling, etc., any day during the season, except it be freezing, or those white rocky clouds be rolling about in the air.

There are a few other flies I will describe, which I have omitted in the foregoing list.

THE HAWTHORN FLY.

This fly comes on about the beginning of April if the

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weather is warm (though I have killed best with it in May) and continues to the end of May. It is of longer duration, but not of much service to the angler after that time. It is easily distinguished from the other flies by the length of its legs which hang below the body as it flies. The body is made with black ostrich harl and black silk, and two or three strands from a black cock's tail feather tied under the wings for legs, which should come below the bend of the hook; the wings are made from the wing feather of a starling—hook No. 2.

THE SMALL HAWTHORN FLY

Comes on the beginning of May and continues to the end of the month. The wings of this fly are made from a quill feather of the dottril's wing, or the lightest part of a starling's wing-feather, warpt with black silk and black horse-hair or black ostrich harl, but the horse-hair comes nearest to the body of the fly, with a black cock's hackle under the wings for legs—hook No. 1. This fly is an excellent killer in warm days.

COW DUNG FLY.

Towards the latter end of April and through May; the wings are made with a feather from the back of a dottril of a dun brown colour, with yellow edges, body warped with yellow silk—hook No. 2. This fly is an excellent killer to the end of May; in June and July it changes its colour to a kind of dirty orange—it may then be made with a landrail's feather for wings, warped with orange silk, dubbed with orange and a little light brown worsted; but

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when it becomes of an orange colour I think it of little use being made, for then there are many flies of an orange colour which we use that the fish like much better.

MARCH BROWN

Comes out the middle of March and continues to the end of April; its body is made with pale orange silk ribbed with the strand of a pheasant's tail feather, with a brown partridge hackle under the wings; wings, from the spotted tail-feather of a partridge—hook No. 2. This fly may be used in May by making the wings of a feather from under the woodcock's wing.

STONE FLY

Comes on the middle of April, and continues to the end of May. The body is made with yellow silk, ribbed with a strand from a peacock's tail-feather; wings, a woodcock's wing-feather, and a partridge hackle under the wing—hook No. 3.

LITTLE STONE GNAT.

This fly comes on the beginning of May, and will kill very well in cold showery days to the end of July. The body is made with pale lead-coloured silk; wings, feather from a longwing—hook No. 1.

SMALL GREEN ALDER FLY.

This fly comes on the latter end of May and continues to the middle of August; it is a neat little fly, and is taken pretty well during and after a warm shower of rain, espe-

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cially in the evening of a warm day. The body is made with pale pea green silk; wings, feather from a sea swallow of a very pale dun or white—hook No. 0 0.

BLUE GNAT.

This fly comes on about the middle of May and continues to the end of June, in cold stormy days; wings, feather from a starling, the body of mazarine blue silk—hook No. 1.

YELLOW SALLY.

This fly comes in about the middle of May and continues to the middle of June. The body is made of very pale yellow silk, and the wings with a white sea swallow's feather dyed a pale yellow—hook No. 1.

LITTLE RED LEGS

Comes on about the tenth of Oct. and continues through the season and I believe it is the same fly that we find in spring with a red body, which I call the spring black; the wings are made with a feather from a young rook, and put on as a hackle; the body is warped with pink silk and a little red worsted or mohair under the wings. This fly is a very good killer.

GREY DRAKE.

This fly comes on about the middle of May and continues to the middle of June, (in those rivers where they frequent;) the body is made with a little grey wool from a turkey carpet, warped with grey silk, and ribbed with black, and two or three strands from the feather of a black cock's

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tail for the whisks of its tail; wings, a dark grey feather from a mallard or drake, a black hackle under the wings—hook No. 5.

GREEN DRAKE.

This fly is on at the same time as the grey drake; the body is made with a little yellow wool and a little fur from the back of a hare's neck mixed, warped with yellow silk and ribbed with green; the wings are made from the light grey feather of a drake, dyed yellow, and three strands from a black cock's tail-feather for the whisks of the tail, and a dun hackle under the wings—hook No. 5.

There are many more flies that frequent the water that I have not mentioned, but you will find those which I have enumerated to be of the greatest service. You may discover a fly that kills very well for a time; but you will find those in the foregoing list the most general killers.

CHAPTER 3.—ON THE PALMER WORMS, THE METHOD OF DUBBING, AND THE DIFFERENT SEASONS WHEN TO USE THEM.

MARCH.

1 RED PALMER.
2 GREEN PALMER.
3 BLACK PALMER.

1.—Body, peacock's copper harl, whipt with red silk, red cock's hackle over all—hook No. 2.

2.—Body, green peacock's harl, green silk, black hackle over all—hook No. 2.

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3.—Body, black ostrich harl warped with black silk, black cock's hackle over all—hook No. 2.

The red palmer will kill nearly any day in summer in any river in England, that have any fish in.

APRIL.

1 GREY PALMER.

1.—Body, peacock's harl warped with red silk, ribbed with silver twist, and a blue dun cock's hackle over all—hook No. 2.

MAY.

1 SILVER PALMER.

1.—Body, green peacock's harl, green silk ribbed with silver twist, and a black cock's hackle over all—hook No. 2. This palmer is taken to the end of July.

JUNE.

1 GOLDEN PURPLE PALMER.
2 GOLDEN PALMER.
3 BROWN PALMER.

1.—Body, purple mohair or wool, warped with purple-coloured silk, ribbed with gold twist, red cock's hackle over all—hook No. 2.

2.—The body is made with orange silk, ribbed with peacock's harl and gold twist, with a red cock's hackle over all—hook No. 2.

2.—The body is made with amber-coloured wool

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or mohair, warped with brown silk, and ribbed with gold and silver twist, and a red cock's hackle over all—hook No. 2.

JULY.

1 LATE BLACK PALMER. || 2 WHITE PALMER.

1.—Body, peacock's harl of a copper-colour, red silk, black hackle over all—hook No. 2.

2.—Body, white ostrich harl, white silk, white hackle over all—hook No. 2.

There are also the white and brown moths, which are used in the evening and at night for trout with both the long and short line; the latter with the natural fly for dibbing. You may see them flying about on a summer's evening in great numbers.

THE WHITE AND BROWN MOTHS are made as follows:

1 WHITE MOTH.
2 BROWN MOTH. || 3 LIGHT BROWN MOTH.

1.—Body dubbed with white wool warped with grey silk; wings, a white-grey feather from a hen or white howl—hook No. 5. The body made large and thick, with a grizzled cock's hackle under the wings.

2.—Dubbed with brown wool or mohair, warped with brown silk; a dark brown hen's feather for wings, and a partridge hackle for legs—hook No. 5.

3.—Body, pale snuff-coloured wool, ash-coloured silk; wings, a pale brown hen-feather, with a dark grizzled cock's hackle under the wings—hook No. 5. The body of these flies are made large.

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As a friend of mine was dibbing with the natural white moth one night in the river Eatherow, he caught a very fine eel with it.

Though I have given you the size of the hook to each fly; some of them may be made larger for dead, heavy, or coloured waters, but in fine water use small flies, for by doing so you will have considerably more sport; you certainly will lose more fish by their becoming unhooked, than if you used large ones; but you can afford to do so, because you will have more rises, and in the summing up at night you will find that you have taken more fish than you would have done had you used the larger flies.

Be very careful to keep your silk and dubbing clean when making flies, and see that the body and wings lie neat and straight on the hook; never mind what slovens say (for some of them will tell you it does not matter how the fly is made if the wings and body be the right colour,) but I say to them, they are mistaken; for you may be sure the nearer they are to nature the better. Others say the fish are not so particular to a shade as old anglers would make you believe; but I say, they are to the greatest nicety, more particularly in the body; for if you make two flies apparently both alike, with but a slight shade of difference in the body, and use them both at once, you will find they will take one, but scarcely look at the other, particularly if the day be bright and the water clear. But theory without practice is like a ship without a helm.

For the better illustration of the flies, I give a copy in the annexed engraving of some of the principal ones, and here I will give you the names of them.—

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NAMES OF THE FLIES.

1 OLD JOAN.
2 LARGE SPRING DUN.
3 DUN CUT.
4 RED PALMER.
5 RED ANT FLY.
6 BUFF DUN.
7 ORANGE BROWN.
8 LITTLE IRON BLUE.
9 GREEN TAIL.
10 PARTRIDGE RUMP.
11 WILLOW CRICKET.
12 WREN-TAIL.
13 GREY DRAKE.
14 BRACKIN CLOCK.
15 COCKIN DUN.
16 RED BREECHES.
17 BANK FLY.
18 TAILEY-TAIL.
19 SHORN FLY.
20 HAWTHORN FLY.
21 SMALL SPRING DUN.
22 BROWN PARTRIDGE.
23 ORANGE DUN.
24 RED SPINNER.
25 RUSSET FLY.
26 GREEN DRAKE.

From the above list you will have an idea of the size, colour and form of my flies. There are many of the natural flies which have whisks or tails at the tail end of their bodies, but I do not put them on my artificial flies, because I think the hook tail enough, and many fish have found it so to their cost. When you are angling never use more than four flies at one time, indeed three are plenty: for the fewer flies you use the better you can deceive the fish. Nor would I advise you to change your flies very often as I have seen some do; but to keep on a black, a brown, and a dun, except the day is very bright and warm, for then the dun is not so much on, except morning and evening; but there comes in their place, the reds and shiners.

Notice that if you should at any time see crowds of any particular kind of flies come on, or near the water, you

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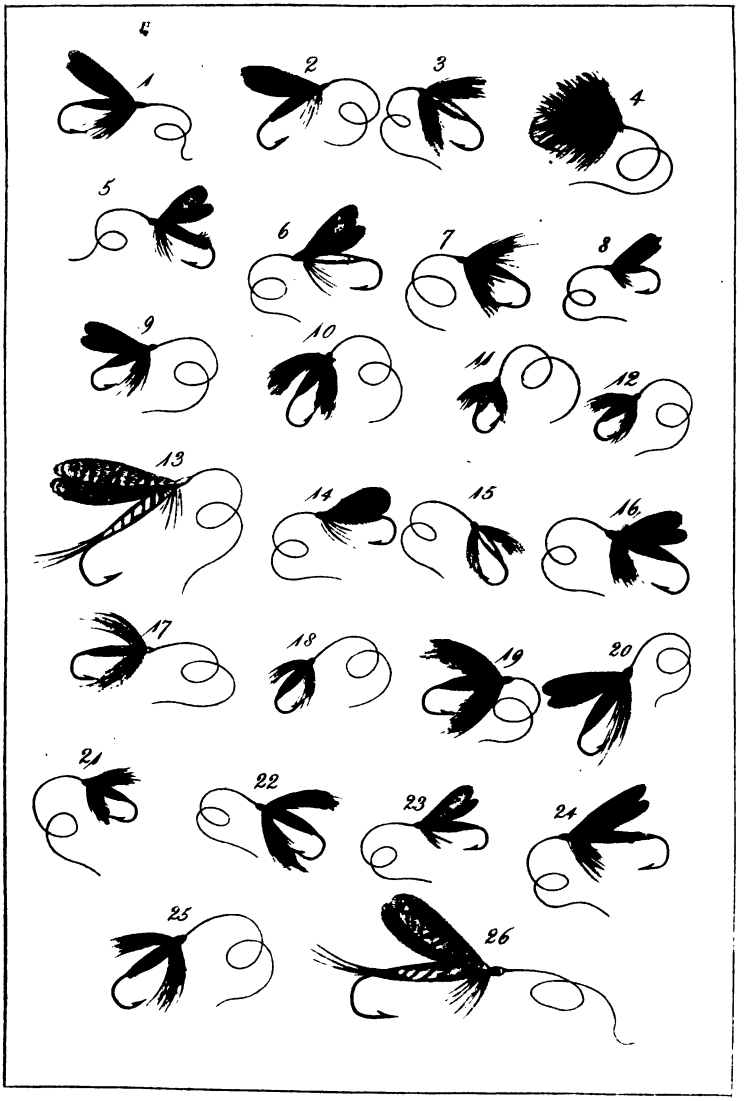

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may conclude that they will be the most killing flies for that day: therefore if you have not any of that kind make one.

There is also another good rule poetically described by Mr. Gay as follows:—

"Mark well the various seasons of the year,
How the succeeding insect race appear;
In this revolving moon one colour reigns,
Which in the next the fickle trout disdains
Oft have I seen a skilful angler try
The various colours of the treacherous fly;
When he with fruitless pain hath skimmed the brook,
And the coy fish rejects the skipping hook.
He shakes the boughs that on the margin grow,
Which o'er the stream a waving forest throw;
When if an insect fall (his certain guide),
He gently takes him from the whirling tide,
Examines well his form with curious eyes,
His gaudy vest, wings, his horns and size;
Then round his hook the chosen fur he winds,
And on the back a speckled feather binds,
So just the colour shines through every part,
That nature seems to live again in art."

It is well to use the palmers if there is a stiffish breeze stirring, for then they drop from the trees. Once a circumstance occurred which I shall here mention, not that it was of an unusal occurrence, for cases of that kind happen many times during the season, but for the better information of the young angler. As I was angling one day in the river Derwent, my sport was pretty regular till about ten o'clock (this was in May), when there came on a gentle shower, and with it came crowds of flies, not duns as I expected, but flies with a very bright pale yellow wing, and the

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fish began to rise at them gloriously—both trout and greyling; at length I caught one of these flies, and found that though the wings were yellow the body was of a pale transparent flesh colour—I never saw any of that kind either before or since that day—however I soon made one; the wings with a white feather from a hen's neck dyed yellow; I dubbed the body with fine deep orange coloured mohair, warped very sparingly round very pale buff silk, which gave the body the exact colour of the fly. I no sooner threw it on the water than it was taken; and they continued rising at it whilst it continued raining, which lasted about an hour; at the end of which time they disappeared. I then took it off my line till about six in the evening; they then came on again, and I had as fine sport as a person would wish to enjoy. Therefore when you go to angle, take your, dubbing, silk, feathers and hooks with you, so that you will be provided with materials to make a fly wth if it be requisite. You should also be provided with a whinch to fix to your rod, so that you can lengthen or shorten your line as occasion may require.

When you make a cast, wave your rod in a small circumference round your head, and never make a return of it before it has had full scope, for if you do the fly will snap off. Let your flies drop lightly on the water with as little of the line as possible, and keep them in continual motion by gently rising the rod after making the cast, or the fish will discern the cheat. You must have a sharp eye and a quick hand to strike the moment a fish rises, or it will quit the hook.

When you have hooked a good fish, do not trust to

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your rod and line in landing it, but use a landing-net.

Always throw up or across the stream, for trout lie with their heads up the stream. You might have more rises down than up, but they do not come so sure.

After rain, if the water becomes brownish, the bank-fly is then taken very well. On bright days and clear waters, use small light-coloured flies. But I would advise you always to use the smallest flies, except in heavy waters where there is large fish, then you may use larger.

If at any time your hair lash should be difficult to sink, draw it through wet fuller's earth, and it will sink the first throw.

When you see a fish rise, throw your flies beyond it, and draw them gently over the place where it rose, and if they are right the fish is your own.

When you angle in dead heavy waters, let your flies sink a little, and draw them towards you; but if you angle in quick running waters, your fly must always swim on the top, under the continual inspection of your eye.

Always turn out early in the morning, it being the best time, for then you may either use the natural or dub fly or worm, and you have the day before you.

I shall conclude this chapter with a description of the beauties of a May morning—such as sluggards seldom see.

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BLOOMING MAY.

The upland lawn looks blythe and gay,
The morning star hails blooming May—
The mist of night flies swift away,
And rolls along the dale.
The morning's light appears in sight,
With gentle zephyrs fanning by—
The sun just breaking forth on high,
And on his golden pinions fly
To deck the fertile vale.

The angler hastens with delight—
And the lark takes his aerial flight—
They rise to meet the morning's light,
And hail the break of day.
Birds do sing and flowers spring,
O'er blooming heath we lightly tread,
Down by the mountain's rocky glade,
Where mimic waterfalls are made,
And trout around us play.

The blooming rose and woodbine meet,
Such pleasures there the anglers greet;
The air is filled with fragrance sweet,
What more could mortals crave?
Our flies we guide on every side,
With vernal rains the waters bound,
And with success the day is crown'd
The trout are sporting all around,
Beneath the curling wave.

There is no sport which can compare,
To anglers who fish with hair;
We tempt the trout that's leaping there,
Along the silver stream.
With line and hook we skim the brook;
Our flies they are so fine and neat,
That fish ne'er can discern the cheat;
At night we give our friends a treat
By the sun's parting beam.

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A SUMMER'S MORNING.

The bright summer's morning breaks blooming and fair,
The lark springs from his nest and mounts in the air;
The dew-drops on the grass look sparkling and gay—
Dame nature is deck'd in her liv'ry of May.

From yon bank of clouds see bright Phœbus doth rise,
And with his bright rays she enlivens the skies;
The tops of the mountains in grandeur are seen—
The woods and the vallies are clothed in green.

For the white blossom'd thorn is in its full bloom,
The air fill'd with fragrance spreads the perfume;
Down by the valley where primroses spring,
The blackbird, the thrush, and the linnet do sing.

CHAPTER 4.—A DESCRIPTION OF NATURAL FLY-FISHING AND THE FLIES MOST SUITABLE FOR GENERAL USE, BOTH IN DIBBING AND MIDDLE FISHING; TOGETHER WITH A FEW HINTS TO BE OBSERVED IN THE ART OF ANGLING.

DIBBING is a method by which very often the largest fish are taken, and it requires great nicety and circumspection. For this kind of angling your line should be a yard and a half to two yards long; and your rod should be as long as you can well manage, longer and better. As dibbling must be performed as near the bank as possible, a long rod and short line is the best. You must keep as far from the spot that you dib in as you can, and shelter behind bushes or clumps of trees, &c. Your rod

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for this purpose should be rather stiff, with rings and a whinch fixed upon it, so that when you have hooked a good fish, you can give him as much line as you think proper, and you can lengthen or shorten it as occasion may require. When you see a fish, rise guide your fly over it immediately, and he is sure to come if it be right. When you dib for chub, roach, or dace, move your fly very slow when you see them make towards it. Roach take flies the best a little under water. The best flies for the anglers use in this method of angling are as follows:—

1.—THE WOODCOCK CANNON, OR DOWNHILL FLY.

Found on the bodies of oak or ash trees, with its head downwards, from which it takes the name of downhill fly or down looker. It is something in the form of a horse fly, but rather longer, and of a brownish colour, the wings being spotted like the feather under the woodcock's wings; the body is a fine orange colour, interlaced with black spots, the head of a ash-colour; used from the beginning of May to the end of June. Be careful not to ruffle the wings. I believe the orange brown and the brown shiner are taken for this fly when made artificially. For this, as well as most of the other flies, use a No. 7 hook.

2.—THE HAWTHORN FLY.

Found on hawthorn bushes when the leaves come forth. It is a slender black bodied fly, with dark dun wings, and very long legs, which are easily discerned as

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it flies, and is taken from the middle of April to the end of July.

THE STONE FLY.

Found under hollow stones at the side of rivers, has large brown wings and a brown body, with yellow streaks on the back and belly, and is taken from the middle of April to the end of June. Chiefly morning and evening.

THE GREEN DRAKE

Has a yellow body ribbed with green, is long and slender, with wings like a butterfly, and its tail turns up towards its back. It is in season from the middle of May to Midsummer. You may take them with your landing net and put them as well as all your other flies in a box, with a slide-lid full of holes to give them air. Put the point of the hook in the thickest part of its body under one of its wings, and out at the other side; then take another and put it on the contrary way. It is taken any part of the day on rivers where they resort.

THE GREY DRAKE.

It is generally found in the same places where the green drake resorts, and is in shape perfectly the same; it comes in, and is taken after, the green drake, and when made artificially, kills fish very well in the months of May and June.

BLACK WOOD FLY.

Found in woods and about edges: any new dung will

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attract them in crowds, when you may knock them down with a hazel bough with the leaves stripped off. Put them in your box till wanted. I consider this fly the best for all rivers. It may be used in a variety of ways, and in all with advantage to the angler. When you dib with it use one on the hook; put the hook through the thick part of its body near the back, so that when you drop it on the water, it may alight with its legs downwards, and if the fish be rising you are sure to hook one, and ten to one but that it will be a good one. It is a large fly, and some call it the blue-bottle. The body is of a fine blue or lead-colour, ribbed with fine black stripes; the wings are a very dark dun, and lie on the back like the house flies. Some of them have a dirty grey or ash-coloured body, and are rather smaller than the others, and generally kill better: you may use one or two on the hook at once, bated as in middle fishing. I have killed with it made artificially, but the natural ones are the best for dibbing with.

There is another way of fishing with them which I call "middle fishing," which is second to none. I use two on the hook at once. Put in the hook at the head of one and out at the tail; drawn up till it lies straight on the hook; then take the other and put the hook in at the tail and bring it up to the tail of the other, and if it is a coloured water, put a number four shot about ten inches from the hook: but if the water is clear, you must use them without shot, and your line must be longer. When you fish in coloured water your line must be about as long as your rod, and you must cast it across the stream

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and let it carry the flies down, which will sink a little with the shot, and if there be a fish in the stream it is yours. If the water continue coloured, you may fish all day; but in clear water the best time is from day break to eight o'clock, and from seven in the evening till sunset. You must be careful in throwing your line or you will lash off your flies. I have taken fish this way when all else have failed. They kill best through May and June; and trout are very fond of them. Your hook for this fly should be a No. 8.

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THE ECHOING HORN.

The echoing horn calls the huntsman away,
The fox or the hare to pursue,
As I rise in the morn by break of the day,
Ere the sun from the grass drinks the dew.

O'er hill and through vale I then cheerfully stray,
Some murmuring river to find;
The birds singing sweetly to hail the bright day,
Gives delight to the angler's mind.

Down to the streamlet I with eagerness hie,
For my heart is now all of a glow,
To see the bright stream that runs sparkling by,
And the trout which are sporting below.

The morn's overcast and the day is our own,
And I for the sport do prepare;
The clouds up the vale fly sluggishly on,
And the small whirling dun fills the air.

Lively small insects on the surface do ride.
Near the bank I then see a bold rise;
My line with nice care o'er the circle I guide,
For beneath it I know a trout lies.

Then quick at my fly see he makes a bold spring,
I strive, and with terror he flies;—
He drives through the deep, and he makes the reel ring,
But at length, to the bank draw my prize.

Thus with greyling or trout my basket I fill,
Then homeward delighted I trip;
I meet with my friend, and we join in good will
O'er a bowl or a bottle of flip.

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PART II.

CHAPTER 1.—Description of Baits most Killing for Trout, and the Best Method of Using them both in Middle and Bottom Fishing.

When you angle for them with a worm at bottom, use a long rod and a short line, so that you may keep out of their sight and command the line. The worms for this kind of fishing are the lob-worm, brambling, gilt-tail, and small red garden-worm—but the best are the brambling, gilt-tail, and red worm. Put two small ones on the hook at once, for they are much better than one large one. Your line must have three No. 3 shots about ten inches above the hook, which should be a No, 8. When you are thus prepared, put the hook in near the tail of the red worm and out near the head, then draw it up the line a little to allow you room to put on the gilt tail or brambling; put the hook in near the head of either of them, draw the red worm down till it joins the other; then drop your bait behind a stone or under a hollow bank, or behind a root, or in the eddie, and let the water take it round, you still keeping the line tight and feeling the bottom, and the instant a fish bites you must strike and pull out at the same time; and if at any time your line should stop in any place where it ought to keep moving, strike out, for it is ten to one but there is a trout at the end of your hook. Though the trout is

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a bold biter, sometimes he will mouth the worm without disturbing the line, and if you do not strike he will allow himself to be brought to the top of the water and then quit the hook. Therefore every time I take out my line I strike, and by that means I take many a trout I should have missed if I had not done so. I always use a winch and a ringed rod, so that if I hook a good fish I can let him have as much line as I think proper. When you hook one of this kind, gvie him the but of your rod, and keep the top bent so that he cannot break your line, which, for this kind of fishing must for two lengths from the bottom, be of the best silk worm-gut. This manner of fishing is mostly for his favourite haunts, such as purling brooks and the cooler and smaller rivers which descend from hills and rocky mountains. They love rapid currents and clear swift streams, with gravelly, sandy and stonny bottoms; upon which account they are found in most of our mountain streams. Lower down the rivers, where it is more deep and still, you may find larger and fatter trout, but they are more scarce there than near their sources. If the water be coloured with rain, you may angle the day through; but if it be clear, from daybreak till nine o'clock, and in the dusk of the evcning. But the best way to angle for them in clear water, is with one worm and a smaller hook without shot on your line, which should be as long as your rod, and you must cast it across the top end of the stream and let it go down, and they will seldom refuse it. If used early in the morning: when you use the worm at bottom in the deeps, when the water is coloured, your

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line must be loaded with shot, as in the other method, but a little longer; the hook about the same size, with a light cork float; and you must strike as soon as you see the the float move away. You must also angle in this way with the ant-egg, but your rod need not be so long. I consider this the best bait for deep waters, especially when it is disturbed by rain. You must proceed as follows: provide a moderate-sized bag when you go to an ant-hill, which is generally found in the woods on a sloping bank, open your bag ready to receive the eggs as you take them from the hill; which piece of business must be performed very quickly or you will be covered over with ants, which will not be very pleasant, work with both hands till you get to the centre, where the eggs are deposited; then lift out indiscriminately, eggs, ants, and nest, till you get all you want, then tie your bag up securely, otherwise they will creep all about you. When you are thus provided, and have reached the pool at which you intend to angle, take a handfull of the eggs and nest and wet them so that they will sink, then throw them into the water; bait your hook with five or six eggs, and proceed as with the worms, and you may take both trout and greyling if there be any in the place, for they are both fond of them. You will find larger eggs the latter end of April and May than in the summer months, when the wasp-grub or gentle may be used, but they are not to be compared to ant-eggs. To prepare the wasp-grub some put them in a warmish oven to bake them, but I consider scalding them in blue milk to be much better; it makes them tough, and they keep longer; and

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yet the fish will take them better in their natural state. One day I was angling in the Derwent with some that I had just taken from the nest, I was at the same time provided with ant-eggs to bait or feed the fish where I intended angling; the trout began to bite, but every time I struck the only thing I found at the end of the hook was a long thin skin, the inside of the grub being drawn out. I scarcely knew what to think of it, till an idea suggested itself to me. I immediately put it into practice as follows. I took from by baiting-bag some ant-eggs, though I had to put eight or nine on the hook to make it any thing like the size of the wasp-grub. When all was right I threw in again, and directly I had a nibble, then down goes the float, jerk goes the rod, and out comes a fine trout. Well, thinks I, old gentleman, I have been too old for you: I'll try again, and see if there be any more of the same family. I sometimes used the wasp-grub and sometimes the ant-egg; and I found it to answer my utmost expectation, for in a short time I took a dish of very fine trout and a few greylings. They will also take gentles at the bottom.

TROULING, OR SPINNING THE MINNOW, &c.

In trouling you must be provided with some No. 2, 3, and 5 hooks, and proceed as follows. Take two No. 2 or 3 polished hooks, which you can get at the tackle shops made double; then take a length of strong round silk worm-gut, and with a bit of fine waxed silk whip the double hooks to the end of it; then take two No. 2 and

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one No. 5 hooks, either braize or get them braized or soldered back to back like a pair of grapples, and whip them on the gut about half an inch from the double hooks; then whip a very small loop of gut to a No 5 hook and slip it on the gut, so that it may drop down to the treble hook; then get a piece of lead the form of a barleycorn, but twice as large, with a hole pierced through to admit another loop of gut rather longer than that attached to the hook, which is also slipped on the gut; then at the loose end of the gut fix a small swivel and another length of gut about a yard and a half long, with a swivel at the end to fix to the line, and your tackle is completed.

There is another way to fix the single No. 5 hook as follows. Take a piece of well waxed silk and whip it round the bare hook from near the bend to near the shank, then place the back of the hook on the length of of gut, a little above the treble hooks, and whip the silk round the gut and hook till it comes near the bend, then fasten and cut off the loose end of the silk. The hook fastened in this manner, will, as well as the looped one, move up and down the gut, so that you may accommodate it to the length of your minnow or any other bait-fish.

The annexed plate will give you an idea of the traces both before and after they are baited.

To bait the hooks proceed as follows. We will consider you have already provided yourself, with some of the middle-sized and brightest minnows you can get—the whitest are the best; then pierce the tail of the minnow

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with one of the two hooks at the end of the trace, bring the treble hook along the side of the fish, then hook in the largest, so that the two small ones will lie close to the side of the minnow; put the lead into its mouth, then with the moveable hook (that is the single one), button its mouth up by hooking it in the bottom jaw and out at the top; see that the minnow lies straight on the trace, with the exception of a small curve in the tail to allow it to spin round, which it will do when it is in the water and humoured a little with the hand. Some anglers will cut off one of the gill fins and one of the ventrail fins at the opposite side of the fish. These kinds of traces I have found the best for snap-fishing, but I shall treat more largely on the snap under the head of "pike-fishing."

There is another trace which I shall here describe, which is little inferior to the last, of which I shall give you a design in the engraving. In this method you only use three hooks, as follows. Provide a length of strong and round silk worm-gut, then at the end whip a No. 9 hook; then a little higher up the line whip on a No. 6 hook, so that the bent will come within a quarter of an inch from the shank of the other hook; then higher up the line whip another No. 6 hook, which will move up or down the line as in the other method, so that you can accommodate it to any size of a bait, either minnow or gudgeon, for you may not always be provided with the former, then you must use the gudgeon, which is little if any inferior to the minnow, and may be taken in almost any river or canal, and are easily caught, by the means

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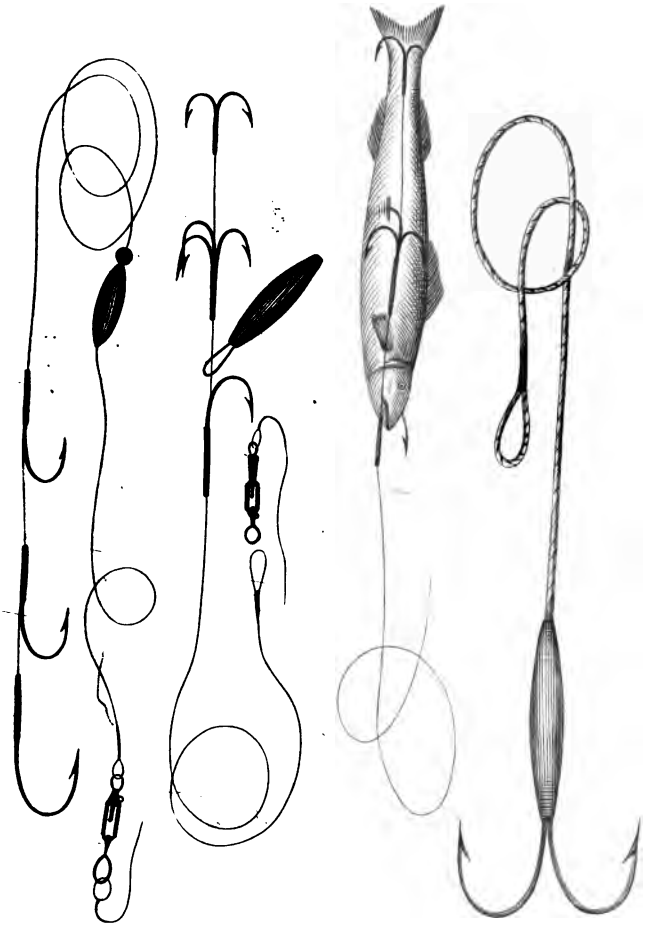

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which I shall hereafter describe under the head "gudgeon." Then about ten inches or a foot from the hooks fix a small shot, and above that again slip on a piece of lead the form of a barleycorn, and about half as large, with hole through the centre from end to end, so that it will drop upon the shot and sink your bait; then a little above the lead fix on your swivel, and about a yard more gut, to which you attach your line, either with or without another swivel; or if you think proper you may fix the lead in the mouth of your bait-fish, as in the other traces instead of on your line; you bait these traces the same as the other. You may vary your baiting by whipping the bottom hook or hooks with a bit of white thread to the tail of your bait fish.

There are many ways of making traces which I think needless to mention, those already enumerated being quite sufficient for the angler's use. There are some anglers about London who use ten, eleven and even twelve hooks to their traces, but I cannot see the use of so many—they surely must scare away the fish.

In the next place you must provide a ringed rod about twelve or fourteen feet long, and somewhat stiffer than your fly-rod, with a winch for your line; and when you go to the river where you intend to angle, let off as much line as you think you can throw; make a gentle cast across the stream, causing the minnow to fall on the water as lightly as possible; then draw it gently across the stream, sometimes letting it sink to near the bottom, then rising it up again; then draw it up the stream, taking care that the minnow spins freely round,

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and lies straight on the hook, with a small curve in the tail.

The best way to make a cast is when you have roved as much line off the winch as you think will be necessary; coil it nicely on the ground, not from the end of the rod, but direct from the winch, in such a manner that it will run glibely through the rings of the rod; then draw your bait-fish to within about a yard or a yard and a half from the top of your rod, holding the slack line in your left hand; and mark when you make a cast, do it underhand, and not as you throw your flies, letting the line run gently through your left hand so that it may not have too sudden a check, but fall lightly on the water; and each time you raise your rod, draw a small portion of the line in with your left hand, taking care that it lies even on the ground, so that should a fish strike there will be no impediment to the line running out, which might be the means of its breaking its hold, if not you tackle, and it will be likewise ready for the next cast, which should not only be across the stream, but in any likely place where the fish might resort, which, with a little practice and the instructions I have given in a former page, you will soon find out.

There is also what is called "ledger-bait fishing," but as I shall treat of this under the head "pike-fishing," I need not insert it here.

There is a method practised called "CROSS-FISHING," whereby many salmon are taken, which is performed by two anglers—one on each side of the river. They are each provided with a long strong-ringed rods, at the butt

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end of which is fixed a large winch, with thirty or forty yards of line, which is run through the rings of each rod, and are united at the smaller ends, where you attach three or four salmon-flies, whipt to three fine guts twisted together, or you may whip them on a single salmon-gut, when you are thus provided, you may walk up the river side, dropping your flies in places most likely where salmon resort to, and if they are right the fish will seldom refuse them.

There is another destructive method of taking salmon, trout, and many other fish, called "LATH-FISHING. For this kind of angling you must provide a deal board, six feet long, and four and a half inches wide, including a piece of iron which is fixed on the thinest edge from end to end which causes the board to swim with the thickest edge up, which must be an inch thick, and the iron-shod edge three-eights of an inch. There must be a hole bored through near to each end, and two inches from the top or thick edge, to admit of a piece of string being fixed somewhat like the bellyband of a kite. You must tie a small piece of string to this bellyband, two feet six inches from one end, and three feet six inches from the other, to which you fix the small end of your line; the rod must be nine feet long, and three-quarters of an inch thick at the top, with a brass hoop fixed upon it, and a large ring screwed to the end for the line to run through, which must be wound round a reel, and fixed to the thick end of the rod; you may use three, four, or five flies on your line at once. I have seen laths which have not been more than three feet long, and ten inches deep,

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which have answered very well. But you may have two small hinges fixed upon the long one, so that it will double up when you are not using it: the rod also may be made to take to pieces. When you go to a lake, or any still water where you intend to angle, launch your lath, and move along the side, and you will see it strike out towards the middle, or as far as you will allow it, and it will move as you do. Let your flies dib on the water, and the fish will take them greedily. This way of angling is very destructive; so much so, that it has been prohibited on several waters.

THE TROUT

Is of a rather longish make and comes nearer in shape to the salmon than any other fresh-water fish, and is considered by some little inferior in taste. In the summer months when they are in season, the back is of a pale olive colour, interspersed with brown and red spots, which in some cases will extend below the littral line, but the colour in a great measure depends upon the water which they are bred in; those bred in the Dane and Wye, and such places as have lime-stone or chalky bottoms, are of a lighter colour, (inclining to white), than those bred in the moor lands, where the bottoms are of a darker colour; indeed those which resort to the sources of rivers amongst the moss-clad hills, are almost black upon the back. I have caught trout of two or three different colours in the same river, more parti-

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cularly when there has been a fresh of water, The best time to angle for them at the bottom, or with the minnow, is from March to June. and from the middle of August to the middle of October, at which period they may be found in almost every stream. They spawn in the cold months of November, December and January; at which time they are very sickly and thin, with large heads, and of a dark colour; though to this rule there is an exception, for there are some trout at that season of the year which seem to be well fed and of a good colour, called in my neighbourhood "the maden trout," because they are without either milt or spawn, and may be found in the streams in the winter season; whereas the others resort to the still deeps, and shelter under roots, rocks, and hollow banks, at which time they may be taken with the red worm or brambling, but they are not worth the labour.

THE SALMON.

The salmon may be called the king of the fresh water fish, being the largest we have in our country. It is a handsome made fish; the head is small with a sharpish nose; the body is rather long and covered with fine bright scales; the colour of the back is a grey-blue, the other part of the body is of a pale silvery colour, and is marked with irregular bright brown spots; but it is a fish so well known to all our anglers, that a further description would be superfluous. They begin to leave the sea about January or February; in some places they will leave sooner, and

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in other places later; they continue running up till near their spawning time, which is chiefly in September and October, though some will spawn in August and others as late as December; at such time they choose to be near the sides or at the end of swift streams with gravelly and sandy bottoms, and so high up the river as to have the water pure and free from any brackish tincture, where they will make large holes wherein to deposit their spawn. The spawner and milter having performed their office, and covered the spawn with the gravel, which they had before thrown out, they leave nature to do the rest, and betake themselves to the sea. The best months to angle for them are from the middle of March to the end of June, and from the end of August to the middle of October; the best time of the day is from five to nine in the morning, and from three till sunset. They are to be fished for with the flies which I have enumerated in the list, a few of which I give a copy of in the annexed engraving. They will likewise take the minnow and other small fish, as well as lobworms. When you angle for them with the fly, your rod should be from sixteen to nineteen feet long, strong and supple, with strong brass rings from the top to within two feet from the bottom, to which should be attached a large reel with about forty or fifty yards of strong tapering line, to the end of which must be fixed about three or four yards of strong salmon gut, well knotted, and whipt on each side of the knots with waxed silk; to the small end of which must be a well whipt loop to attach your fly to, for you must use but one on your line at a time. When you use the

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minnow or any small fish, the same traces that you use for the pike or trout will do for the salmon also. His haunts are in swift violent streams and large rivers; therefore when you angle for them it must be in such like places. When you fish with the lobworm, use the single three-hook traces with two worms on at once, and fix them so that all the hooks may be covered and the tail of one hang below the other. When you are thus provided, fish at the bottom and at the tail end of the stream, keeping the line still, and yourself out of sight as much as possible; but if they do not bite, move your line gently up the stream, and if your bait is not taken, you may conclude there are not any there. This way of angling is best at the clearing after a fresh, or when on the rise before it becomes too thick; but the best way of taking them is with the fly.

THE SALMON FRY.

They are in some places called "salmon smelts," in other places "smelts," and also "salmon pinks;" it is a handsome little fish, and has very much the appearance of a young trout, indeed the difference is scarcely discernable, only the small fleshy fin on the back near the tail is of a grey colour, and that on the trout is red. They are to be met with in all the rivers which salmon frequent, being the produce of the spawn left by them, In the second year they are called "sprods," in the third "morts," in the fourth "forktails," in the fifth "half fish," and in the sixth year "salmon." They begin to

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appear in February, March and April; if a fresh happens to swell the rivers in April, they begin to go down it. It is a common saying amongst the anglers near the river Ribble, that "the first fresh in May, takes all the smelt away." At this time of the year they are about an ounce weight; by the middle of summer they will have grown to the length of four or five inches. They will take almost any small fly, particularly the golden palmer, and afford great diversion. When I was a little boy, not more than eight or ten years of age, I took great quantities of them, and a many times three at once, with a short hazel rod and a line in proportion with three or four flies on, in the river Neath, near Dumfries. They resort to gentle shallow streams, not daring to venture in the deeper parts of the river on account of the various fish of prey which frequent such places.

THE SALMON TROUT

Is a very handsome fish, rather thicker and rounder than a salmon, and is beautifully intermixed with black and red spots from head to tail, and the flesh is considered much better than that of the salmon; their haunts are the same as the salmon and the larger-sized trout, and may be taken when fishing for either. They will grow to the weight of six or seven pounds. They are fond of large gaudy flies, and when the river is fresh, they will take the worm the same as the trout.

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THE BULL TROUT OR SCURF.

The bull trout differs from the salmon and salmon trout, the body and head being much thicker and the tail not so forked; they will grow to four or five pounds weight, and are to be met with in most rivers that have a communication with salt water, from the beginning of June to the end of October; they are most plentiful in September and October, which is their spawning time; therefore they are not so good at that time; indeed their flesh is at no time so good as that of the salmon. Their haunts are the same as those of the salmon trout, and are to be fished for the same way and with the same flies and baits.

THE BARBEL.

So called on account of the two barbs or beards which hang from the upper lip and extend beyond the lower; it is a handsomely made fish, covered with small round scales, which, together with the sport it affords, is all there is to recommend it to your notice, being scarcely fit for the table. It generally spawns in April or May, and the best feeding time is from the beginning of July to the end of September; it is to be angled for at the bottom, where he will take the salmon-roe, gentles, lob-worms or toasted cheese. When you bait the place where you intend to fish, do it with malt grains, blood, or lob-worms, cut into pieces, and well worked up with clay, and made

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into small balls to prevent the stream from washing it away, for it resorts to such like places. If you fish in gentle running water, you may use a quill or cork float; but when you fish in streams it is better without a float; your line should be loaded with a moderate-sized lead of an oval form, with a hole through it to admit the line, which may be bought at any respectable tackle shop, and a shot about a foot from the hook to prevent the lead from dropping any lower. When it bites give it a little time, and strike when you see your line going out. It is a leathern-mouthed fish, therefore, when you have hooked one, all that you need be afraid of is your tackle, which should be fine and strong, for the barbel is a powerful fish and struggles hard for its life.

THE PIKE.

May justly be termed the fresh-water shark, on account of its verocity; it has a long and roundish body, covered with small scales, and is of a greenish colour; the sides are spotted with yellow, and the belly with white; the snout is somewhat like the bill of a duck; the teeth in the lower jaw are crooked, the upper jaw is void of teeth; there is a tripple row on the palate, and the tongue is almost covered with them. Its chief article of sustenance are frogs and fish, even those of his own species; but the larger ones do not confine themselves to these alone, but will take young ducks from the top of the water. Their spawning time is from the middle of February to the middle of March; at which time they seek out some narrow

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creek or ditch wherein to deposit their spawn. In lakes or ponds they will resort to the neck or shallow parts of the water, amongst weeds. They are in season all the year, except February, March and April; and the best time to angle for them is from the end of May to December; the best baits are the young roach, dace, minnow, gudgeon, loach, salmon-smelt, bleak, and yellow frogs; when the latter is used, put your hook in at its mouth and out at its gills, and then with a fine thread tie it above the upper joint of its leg. But the best way to angle for it is with some fish, larger or smaller, according to the size of pike you expect to meet with.

There is a method called "snap-fishing," in which some use a double spring hook, which may be had at the tacke shops; you bait it thus:—with a penknife you make a hole in the side of your bait-fish, then put the gimp which is fastened to the hook into it, and bring it out at the mouth till the spring hooks come to the place where the incision is made, put them into the belly of the fish; then have a piece of lead (the same as I have laid down in toaces for trowling), put it in the fish's mouth, and sew it up. When your hook is thus baited, throw into the most likely place for a pike; let it sink near the bottom, then raise it to near the top, then let it sink again, and so on; still keep drawing your line down the rod with your left hand till the bait is near the side; if a pike should take the bait, strike immediately the contrary way. This kind of angling is practised in March and April, when the fish are spawning, or soon after they have spawned.

But the best way to angle for the pike is with the traces,

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which I have treated upon under the head "trouling," but your hooks must be much larger; and mark, fix on gimp instead of gut. When the fish bites you need not strike with your rod, but give the line a smart jerk with your left hand, which has hold of it, which does not endanger your rod. For the pike should be stronger than that for the trout. The best kind of rods that I have seen for this kind of fishing were made by an old angler of the name of George Grantham, residing in Manchester; they answered for trouling, bottom, and fly-fishing, having the various tops in the hollow bottom.

There is also another way to fish for the pike (both trout and perch may be caught the same way;) I call it middle fishing. You fix a single hook to the end of your gimp, with two or three shots about a foot from the hook, to keep the fish from coming to the top; put on a large cork float, sufficient to swim a gudgeon; and when you bait the hook put it through the top lip or through the back fin. You may bait the same way with a minnow or any other fish, which must be kept alive in a tin kettle with holes in the lid to give them air.

There is another way called "fishing with the gorge." You may either use a single hook or two hooks tied back to back, though they are better braized together. They should be moderately large, with long shanks, and copper-twisted wire or gimp whipt to the end of them; the shanks must be leaded. If you use twisted wire, which is the best for large fish, it must have a joint about six inches from the hook, (you may buy them ready fitted up at the tackle-shops;) to the end of which wire you must fix about a foot of

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gimp, with a loop at the contrary end to attach the swivel to; you must also be provided with a baiting-needle about six inches long, with an eye at one end to admit the loop which is made at the end of the gimp. You likewise must have a piece of gimp about five or six inches long, with a loop at one end to fix to your line, and a box-swivel at the other, with the spring end to receive the loop of the gimp which is attached to the hooks or arming wire. When you are thus provided, take your dead fish, which may be any one of those before enumerated, put the point of the needle in at the mouth and out near to the tail, then draw it and the gimp through till the leaded shank of the hook is buried inside the fish, with only the bend of the hooks outside, and the points towards the eyes, and with a needle and thread sew its mouth up, and with another piece of thread tie the arming-wire to the tail, fix the loop to the swivel, and it is ready for use. This may be used in the same manner as the other trouling, throwing it in those places which the pike is most likely to haunt, viz., amongst weeds, under roots or hollow banks. When a pike takes your bait, slacken the line, and let it have time to pouch it, of which you will have notice by its sailing away with it, then strike, and if he is nicely managed the fish is your own; but when you are middle-fishing you must strike when you see it sailing off with the float. Let your dead baits be as fresh as possible; they are best when packed in bran.

You may also use the gorge for the hand line, but the shank of the hook need not be leaded. They are nothing more than common night-lines; and you may throw

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one or more of them in the places at which you are angling with the rod.

THE GREYLING.

It is a handsome fresh-water fish, and more particularly the young ones; they will grow to three or four pounds in weight, and are somewhat longer than a trout; in make the belly is more flat and broad; they are hogged-backed, somewhat like the roach, and of a dusky green; the sides and belly are of a silver grey, and are marked with black spots, which is more apparent in autumn and winter than the early part of summer, for then they appear more like stripes from head to tail. They may be taken all the year round, but the best time is from the end of August to the end of November—

> For then's the time, if you're inclin'd,
> To tamper the quick-eyed greyling,
> For they're in season. you will find,
> If you go where they are sailing—
> Down by the dove's romantic banks,
> Which through those rocky vallies glide;
> There you may see them play their pranks,
> Along the stream on every side.

They spawn in April and May, and are the most in season at the latter end of the year. You must fish for them in the same manner as for trout, but they will take the fly somewhat deeper in the water. The ant-egg is an excellent bait for them, but they will take the worm, wasp, grub, gentle, and grasshopper; their haunts are nearly the same as the trout's, and you may take them both at the

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same standing. An acquaintance of mine took one with the minnow when trouling for trout in the Derwent. They are by no means a common fish, and are found in but few rivers, such as the Dove, Trent, Wye, Tame, near Ludlow, and a few other streams. When I fish for it with the fly, I always use single hair for my lash or bottom, about two and a half or three yards long. If you miss it when it rises, and should you even prick it, he will come again. I saw a particular instance of it one day that I and three others were angling with the ant-egg in the Derwent, two on each side; one of those on the opposite side had a bite, and when he struck, his line broke and the fish sailed away with about half a yard of it, and in about five minutes after my neighbour took the same fish with the hook in its mouth.

THE BREAM

Is a very coarse bony fish, and but little esteemed in this country for the table; the places it chiefly frequents are ponds or deep gently-flowing rivers, with clay or sandy bottoms, and in the deepest parts of such places, it spawns about the latter end of June. The best time to angle for it is from the beginning of May to the middle of June, and from July to October, and both early and late in the day; they will take the small red worm, wasp, grub, gentle, grasshopper, and red paste, but the red worm is preferable to all other baits, and the bait must lie on the bottom. The bream is a very strong fish, and very much hogged-backed, which has been the

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cause of some anglers calling it a pair of bellows, it having much the appearance of that article of housewifery. Its back is of a blue-black, the sides are of a yellowish colour, and the belly reddish; the tail is forked, and the head somewhat broad and smooth. When it is hooked it struggles hard and requires time in landing it. The tackle must be firm and strong, the hook No. 8.

THE CARP

Is by nature a cunning fish, and by some is called "the fresh-water fox;" it is a leathern-mouthed fish; its back rises from its head, somewhat sharp and edged, and is generally of a yellowish olive; it has large broad scales, its fins are purple-brown, and the tail slightly forked. Its chief spawning time is in May, though it is said they spawn several times in the year. Their haunts are exactly the same as the bream's, and the bait is the green cabbage-grub, wasp-grub, gentle, brambling, red-worm, and crumbs of white bread and honey made into a paste, some use green peas parboiled, but I never tried them. The rod should be long and strong, the line strong in proportion, with a quill float, and gut next to the hook, which should be a No. 8, and it must lie at the bottom, except in spawning time when you fish amongst the weeds, when it should be near the top of the water. When you intend to bait the place where you are going to angle at, do it with the same composition that I recommend for the barbel, and use the same for bream. You must keep out of sight as much as possible, for

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they are very shy. When you have hooked one give it play enough, or it will break your tackle.

THE TENCH

Is considered to be the fish's physician, and is a most delicious fish, but its appearance is by no means prepossessing, for its body is covered with an adhesive mocus or slime, which is said to be healing to other fish, and even the pike will rub itself against its sides if it has received a wound or be sick, and will abstain from devouring it however hungry it may be. The tench is leathern-mouthed, with a small barb at each side; it is covered with small scales of a blackish olive colour. The spawning time is the latter end of June and the beginning of July, and the best time to angle for them is April, May and June, the latter end of July and August. The baits are the red-worm, gentle, wasp-grub, dock-grub, March worms, and all kinds of pastes. Its haunts are in ponds and rivers which are well shaded with bushes, and amongst weeds, rushes, or flags. They thrive better in foul than clear water. The tackle must be rather strong, with a cork or quill float, and you must fish at the bottom if it is not too thick with mud, but if it is you must suspend the bait as near to it as possible. It will sometimes take the bait at mid-water, but I generally take the largest fish at the bottom. It is well to keep feeding the place you are angling in with the same kind of bait you are using, and when he bites

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give him time. You may angle for them all day, but the best times are early and late.

THE CHUB

Is a well known fish, and inhabits many of our rivers and ponds; in shape it somewhat resembles the carp and tench, but its colour is more pleasing, being of a silvery grey. It resorts to deep waters where the current is strong, and it loves to shelter under hollow banks, bushes and large trees that overhang the water, and is often taken when angling for the trout. They spawn in April and May, and may be angled for the year round, when the weather is favourable, with natural (see dibbing) and artificial flies (see fly-fishing), likewise with salmon-roe, ant-eggs, wasp-grubs, gentles, dock-gaubs, and paste tinged with vermilion, old cheese worked in the hand and made into large pills. You may fish either at the bottom or in the middle. Use a shot to your line sufficient to sink your bait, and a fine quill float. The rod must be a long one, and you must keep out of sight as much as possible, for they are a very shy fish, and swim in shoals. Strike as soon as the float is drawn under water, give it play, and keep it from getting amongst the roots or weeds, which it will endeavour to gain. If you bait the ground, do so before you begin to angle, and with the same composition you use for carp, &c.

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THE PERCH.

The perch is a very ravenous fish, its mouth being furnished with very large teeth; it is hogged-backed, on which are two strong prickly fins; the sides are covered with hard dry scales; its body is thick and deep, and of a brownish olive colour, with four for five blackish marks proceeding from the back downwards; its flesh is little inferior to that of a trout. They spawn in February and March, and sometimes as late as May. They bite best from the middle of May to the end of July, and may be taken as late as September. They delight in gentle clear streams with sandy and gravelly bottoms, and are found in almost every lake and river. They swim in shoals, and when you find them, you may take nearly every fish at one standing. Your line and rod must be the same as for chub, with a small cork float. They are taken at several depths, but you will take the best fish at the bottom. They bite best in warm weather. If the day be cloudy and windy, you may angle from sunrise to sunset. When he bites give him time—you cannot give him too much—for if you let it alone it will hook itself. The best baits are the minnow used as a leger-bait, or with trouling, the brambling-worm, dock-worm, red-worm, wasp-grub, a blue worm that you may find under old cow dung in a pasture field, and if you take the eye out of one that you have caught, and put it on the hook, it will take it greedily; it will likewise take a dirty brownish-looking bot, found in ploughed fields or amongst clods that are piled

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together. When you bait with one of these, put the hook in at one end, and it will turn inside out upon it; they will also take the yellow-jack, and a grub about three quarters of an inch long, of a lead colour, both found under old cow dung. When you bait the ground for perch, use chopped dew-worms, or any other sort you may think proper.

THE EEL

Is an inhabitant of almost every river, lake and pond, in the united kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland, particularly those waters which have a communication with the sea. There are several kinds, viz., the conger-eel, the silver-eel, the gred-eel, &c. The silver-eel is accounted the best, but the conger-eel attains to a larger size; I have seen them from eighteen to twenty-four pounds weight. The silver-eel will grow to about five or six pounds in weight. The best places to angle for them are by the side of old walls, bridges, amongst piles, near hollow banks, tails and sides of streams, and the best time is at night or when the tide is flowing, or when the water is foul by rain, and in rough stormy days. The best bait for it in the day time is the wasp-grub, it will also take worms of all kinds, particularly the dew-worm and lampreys or seven eyes, cut in pieces about an inch long; the latter is mostly for night fishing. When you angle for it with the rod, let it, as well as the line, be rather strong, either with or without a cork float, the hook No. 3.

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There is also another way called "bobbing," by which I have taken large quantities of eels. Get two or three yards of worsted, make a knot at one end and at the other tie a piece of wire about eight inches long, sharp at the point, then provide a quantity of dew-worms, put the wire in at the head of one and bring it out at the tail, then draw it down the worsted to where you made the knot; serve the other worms in the same manner till you have covered the worsted all over, then cut off the wire, make a knot on that end to keep the worms from coming off, then lap them round your hand till you come to the other end, then get a piece of strong twine about two yards and three quarters long, tie one end fast to the bunch of worms, make a knot four inches from them, then slip a piece of lead with a hole through it down the line to the knot, about half a pound in weight, fasten the line to a pole about two or three yards long; when you use them let the bait lie on the bottom. You may know when they bite, by feeling them tug at the bait; give them a little time before you pull up, which must be gently done till they get near the surface of the water, then hoist them out quickly, the worsted sticking fast in their teeth, prevents them from getting off till you have landed them. When they are disengaged from the worsted, throw in again; and so continue putting in and drawing out. In this manner you may take a large quantity of eels.

There is another way called "sniggling" or "bragging." You must get a slender stick about a yard and a half long, with a quill fixed to the small end; then get a small stocking needle, whip a piece of simpling to the

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middle with a piece of waxed silk, then put the thick end of the needle into the head of a lob-worm, letting the point come out about the middle; then put the point of the needle into the quill, holding the string slack in your hand; put the baits into holes in hollow walls, under stones, or any place where eels are likely to resort. If there be an eel he will take it and draw the worm and needle out of the quill; give it time to swallow the worm, then give the line a smart twitch, and it will fix the needle across the throat; hold a moderate tight line and he will soon come out of his hold, and you may then bring him to land. Instead of the quill you may make a small cleft in the end of the stick to put the point of the needle in, which answers as well.

There is another way to take them. Get a bundle of straw, and put inside of it a quantity of offal, then tie a piece of string round near to each end; then get a strong cord and tie it round the middle of the bundle, and with a large stone sink it in the most likely place for eels, leaving the end of the cord on land; go early the next morning after leaving it there all night, take hold of the string and pull out the bundle of straw as quickly as you can, and you will find a quantity of eels creeping out of it.

They are also taken with night-lines with several hooks fixed on them baited with lob-worms, bull-heads, minnows, and lampreys cut in pieces; the latter is the best bait for these kinds of lines.

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THE FLOUNDER

Is an inhabitant of all the rivers which have a communication with the sea; it is a flat fish, somewhat like a plaice, but the body is longer; the back is a dirty olive brown colour; the belly is of a dull white. It delights to be in gentle streams with gravel or sandy bottoms. It spawns in June and July, and is in season all the remainder of the year. It is the same with the flounder as with all other flat fish, to feed at the bottom. You may angle for them all the day through on the declivity of a deep hole, either with or without a small cork float. When you have a bite give it time to gorge the hook before you strike, and you will seldom lose them. Let your tackle be fine. The best baits are the small red worms, bramblings, and march worms; be sure your hook is well covered and lies on the ground.

THE ROACH

Is rather a handsome fish; it has a small head and mouth, a hog back, and the scales are large; the fins, when in season, are red, the tail a little forked. It is a simple fish; and inhabits most of our rivers, especially such as are deep, still and clear, with sandy and gravelly bottoms. It is also found in many of our lakes and canals. Its sides are of a silvery colour with a shade of yellow, rather more dusky on the upper parts. During

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spring they resort to shallows and scours, in summer amongst weeds, and in winter in deep holes and eddies. They spawn in May, and are best in winter, though they begin to be in season in July. You may angle for them the day through, but like most other fish it is best early and late. Your rod must be long and slender, your line single hair or gut, with a single shot on, and a fine quill float; the baits most killing are gentles, wasp-grubs, pastes, and small red worms—hook No. 2. When angling for them and you see the float moving away, strike or it will leave the hook and suck of the bait.

THE DACE OR DARE

Differs some little from the roach by having a wider mouth, blunter nose, and larger head, with a longer and thicker body, the scales not so large, and the tail more forked, and it is a more lively fish in the water; the flesh is much better, and it is not so boney. Its haunts are much the same as the roach's. They spawn the latter end of March, and are in season soon after. The same baits and tackle that are used for the roach will do for the dace. Also, when you fish for either, you must keep baiting the place with bits of paste made into small pills, chewed bread, or bits of potatoes mixed with bran. But the best way to take them from April to October is with artificial flies, such as the black gnat, wren-tail, small, ant-fly, &c.

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THE BLEAK

Is called by some "the fresh-water swallow," and by others "the fresh-water sprat:" its length is about five or six inches; the back is of a olive green, the scales thin and of a silvery colour. It is found in many of our rivers, and it haunts both deeps and streams. It spawns in May.—When you angle for them use a single hair line, with a slender rod, a small quill float, with two or three No. 1 hooks on your line, and fish at mid water. You may also take them with the fly, such as you use for dace. The best baits for the bleak are gentles, small caddies, house flies, and small bits of reddish paste. Bait the ground the same a for roach and dace.

THE GUDGEON

Is to be met with in most of our small rivers and rivulets, particularly those which are connected with lakes and ponds with sandy and gravelly bottoms; its length is about five or six inches. The back is of a pale olive colour, the sides of a silvery hue marked with black spots, and the belly white. It spawns in April or May. In summer it resorts to gentle shallow streams, in winter to deep still waters. It is an excellent bait for the pike. They are to be angled for at the bottom, with fine tackle. The baits are gentles and small red worms.

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THE MINNOW OR PINK

Is an inhabitant of most of the clear streams in England, and in length seldom exceeds three inches. It is of different colours, some being of a wavy green, others brownish intermixed with blue: the bellies of some are of a silvery white, others are tinged with yellow or red. It makes its first appearance in March and disappears in October: it spawns in June and is an excellent bait for pike, perch, and trout. It may be angled for from sunrise to sunset with small worms: your tackle must be fine, your hooks of the smallest kind, and your bait must be on or near the bottom.

There is also the "loach" and "bull-head" or "miller's-thumb," both of which are good baits for night-lines, but they are so well known to most anglers that I need not enter into any particulars with regard to their form, colour, or haunts.

THE LAMPREY OR SEVEN EYES

Is an inhabitant of most rivers which receives the influx of the tide. Its length is from ten to twelve inches; the back is of a greyish black, and the belly a bright silver colour: its mouth is round and furnished with six or seven teeth; on the top of the head there is a hole to take in the water when it adheres to a rock or stone, (for then its mouth is entirely shut) and the water is again discharged by the seven holes placed on each side near

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the head. It is entirely void of bone and is an excellent bait for night-lines, particularly for eels. There is a smaller kind which inhabits many of our streams near their source, which are not more than six or seven inches long, and about as thick as a dew-worm, of a pale brown or sandy colour; it will also do to bait night lines when cut in pieces about an inch long, but it is not to be compared to the larger sort. There is also another kind, which is an inhabitant of the sea, though it comes into fresh water to deposit its spawn; it is called "the lamprey eel." The skin is of a blackish colour and full of paleish angular spots. I have seen in the river Neath lamprey eels which have measured three feet in length; but they are of no service to the angler; for without they are a fish whereon he can exercise his patience and abilities to capture, he considers them worthless; and he may be classed amongst the most persevering enemies of the finny race, which are too numerous to mention; but I shall here enumerate a few, as Pope and other writers have given them:—

"A thousand foes the finny people chase,
Nor are they safe from their own kindred race:
The pike, fell tyrant of the liquid plain,
With rav'nous waste devours his fellow train;
Yet howso'er with raging famine pined,
The tench he spares, a salutary kind;
Hence, too, the perch, a like voracious brood,
Forbears to make this gen'rous race his food,
Though on the common drove no bound he finds,
But spreads unmeasured waste o'er all the kinds:
Nor less the greedy trout and glutless eel,
Incessant woes and dire destruction deal:
The lurking water rat in caverns preys,
And in the weeds the wily otter slays;

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The ghastly newt in muddy streams annoy,
And in swift floods the felly snake destroys;
Toads for the swarming fry forsake the lawn
And croaking frogs devour the tender spawn.
Neither the habitants of land nor air,
(So sure their doom) the fishy numbers spare:
The swan, fair regent of the silver tide,
Their ranks destroy, and spread their ruin wide;
The duck her offspring to the river leads,
And on the destin'd fry insatiate feeds;
On fatal wings the pouncing bittern soars,
And wafts her prey from the defenceless shores;
The watchful halcyons to their reeds repair,
And from their haunts the scaly captive bear;
Sharp herns, and corm'rants too their tribe oppress,
A harass'd race, peculiar in distress,
Nor can the muse enumerate their foes:—
Such is their fate, so various are their woes."

CHAPTER 2.—A FEW REMARKS ON BAITS—WHERE TO BE FOUND —AND HOW TO BE PRESERVED.

MINNOWS AND GUDGEONS

Are to be found in many small rivulets, and may be taken by small nets and kept in a tin kettle of an oval form, the lid to open with an hinge, and pierced full of holes to let in the air, and the handle to carry it by to be over the top. If your bait-fish be dead, pack them in bran, which will absord the moisture, and if you have to keep them a length of time, sprinkle a little salt over them. They are a good bait for pike, trout, perch and eels.

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LOACH AND BULLHEADS

Are to be found near the sides, on the bottom, and under stones in shallow gravelly waters; they may be taken either with small worms or by the hand. They are a good bait for night lines.

BRAMBLINGS, GILTTAILS AND RED-WORMS.

Are to be found in old horse-dung hills, hog's dung, and rotten earth, and about cucumber pits, and in tanner's bark, after it has been used and has become rotten; you may scour them in damp moss, but they are better without it.

MEADOW-WORMS

Are longer than the brambling, of a whiteish colour, with a yellow tinge at the end of the tail, somethiug like the gilt-tail, and may be found in turnip-fields and pasture-land, after or during rainy weather.

MARSH-WORMS

Are found in marshy ground, under cow-dung, and in rich soils near the banks of rivers; they are of a dark blue colour. They are an excellent bait for perch, and many other fish.

SMALL WHITE EARTH WORMS

Are found in gardens and ploughed fields; they are of a

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dirty white colour, with pale red heads and yellowish at the tail; when scoured they are of a pale pink colour. They are an excellent bait for trout; chub, dace, carp, tench, bream, perch, eels and gudgeons.

LOB-WORMS

Are to be found in gardens in the evening of damp days, during spring and summer. They are a good bait for salmon, trout, barbel, and eels,

KNOT-WORMS

Are found in stiffish marl or sandy ground; they are of a deep pink or pale red colour, and are often found tied in a knot. They are a good bait for most of the lesser kind of fish, and if put on the hook together with a brambling, trout will take them much better.

TO CLEANSE OR SCOUR WORMS.

The best way to scour worms is to put them in an earthen jar with a quantity of clean damp moss, changing or washing the moss every three or four days.

MAGGOTS OR GENTLES

Are produced from fly-blows in any kind of animal substance, and may be retained in a tin box with a quantity of bran and damp sand, or damp sand alone, and put

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in a damp place; and if you want some for winter or spring fishing about November, procure a cow's liver or a sheep's head, and expose it for the flies to blow upon, and when the maggots are full grown, put them, together with the liver or heads, into a tub or cask, with one end taken out, first putting at the bottom a quantity of fresh mould mixed with half dried cow-dung, then fill the tub with the same kind of mould, and keep them in a cool place; if the mould should become dry at the top, sprinkle a little water over it.

WASP-GRUBS

Are an excellent bait for many kinds of fish. To prevent them from coming forward too fast, keep the wasp-combe in a very cool place, or bake them a little in a half-cooled oven, or pour scalding milk over them.

ANT-EGGS

Are capital bait for trout, greyling, roach, dace, chub, and many other kinds of fish,

THE COD-BAIT

Is to be found in gravelly and sandy rivulets, and by the sides of streams in large rivers, among and under stones; put them into a linen bag, dip them, bag and all, into water, and hang them up. When you want to use them

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break off carefully the husks. They are a good bait for most fish.

DOCK-WORMS.

These worms are found by plucking up the plants and washing their roots free from earth; in their fibres are little cases of a red or yellow colour, in which, upon being opened with a pin, will be discovered the worm; they must be kept in bran. They are a good bait for bream, greyling, trout and perch.

PASTES

Made of old rotten Cheshire-cheese and white bread, is a good bait for chub. A good bait for barbel may be made by dipping white bread in the water which chandler's greaves has been boiled in, and kneaded stiff. But the best paste which I have found for all kinds of fish is made as follows:—Get a moderate-sized potato, nearly half its bulk of cheese, and a teaspoonful of white sugar, mix them in a bason till they are well incorporated together, then add to it white flour until it has the consistency of putty, tie it in a clean cloth, put it in a saucepan full of cold water over the fire, let it boil about three or four minutes, and it is ready for use.

SALMON-ROE

Is an excellent bait for trout, chub, roach, dace, and

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many others, used raw as it comes from the fish, and cut with a pair of scissors the size which will cover the hook; or you may preserve it in the following manner;—take a pound of the roe, put it in warm water, and carefully wash off the particles of skin and blood; then rinse it by pouring over it cold water, and hang it up in a bag to drain for a day and night; then put to it two ounces of salt, a quarter of an ounce of saltpetre, and a quarter of an ounce of ground loaf sugar, and hang it up again for twenty-four hours more; then spread it on a dish to dry before the fire, or in the sun until it becomes stiff, and then put it into a small jar and run melted suet on the top, The jar must be covered with a bladder to keep out the air. If this be placed in a dry cool place, it will keep good for two years. When you wish to make your paste of a pink colour, mix a little vermillion with it. When you fish with paste or roe, you must be quicker in striking than when you are fishing with worms or grubs; and it is a good plan when fishing with the paste, to suspend on your line, about a foot from the rod, a small piece of lead, which prevents the fish from being pricked before you strike.

RODS.

As a rod is an indispensible article to an angler, I shall here give you a description of those which I have found the best. A fly-rod should be from nine to ten feet long for small rivers; let the bottom part be five feet long, and made of hickory, ash, or lancewood—I give prefe-

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rence to the hickory, it being very light and elastic; the top must be made of logwood that is straight grained, and made very fine it must be fixed to the bottom by a long neat splice, tied with fine waxed string, but some will have them made in three parts, fixed together by brass ferrules for convenience of carriage. The bottom end of the rod must be made so thick that it will fit easily in the hand, and taper much for about a foot above the handle, then gently to the top end; it must likewise be ringed from the top to within half a yard from where the reel is fixed on; the nearer the rings are placed towards the top the less liable the line is to swag. For large rivers and lakes a fly-rod about twelve feet three inches long is a very good length. Bottom and dibbing-rods should be from thirteen to fifteen feet long and a little stiffer than fly-rods. Trouling-rods shou'd be from twelve to thirteen feet long, and rather stiffer than bottom-rods, with broader and larger rings. There has lately been invented a new kind of ring for trouling-rods, and may be purchased at the tackle-shops. There are two-handed salmon-rods made from sixteen to twenty feet long. Your lines for salmon and large pike fishing should be about forty or fifty yards long. and finely tapered. Trout lines must be from eighteen to thirty yards long, and rather much tapered for about twelve yards, the thickest part being from twenty-four to twenty-six hairs thick, and run down to four hairs at the point. These lines must be free from knots, otherwise they will not run through the rings. They may be purchased at the tackle-shops any length you may think

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proper. I have given you a description of the rods, lines, baits and flies requisite for the angler, so that I have only further to add, that neatness, cleanliness, perseverance and patience, are highly necessary in every department of angling.

As it may be difficult to obtain feathers and hair of the exact colour you may want, I shall here inform you how to dye them.

HOW TO DYE THE MALLARD AND OTHER FEATHERS YELLOW.

Take the root of the barbary tree, shave it, put to it woody vis, with alum the size of a wallnut, and boil the feathers in it with rain water, and they will be a fine yellow; or after you have boiled your feathers in alum water, boil them again in water wherein you have put some fustic, and they will be of a deep yellow; or get a little weld and recou and boil your feathers with them, and they will be a fine yellow colour. By the same means you may dye the buff ferrit fur yellow, which will be equal to yellow martin's fur.

TO DYE FEATHERS RED.

After they have gone through the process of being dyed yellow, put them in an earthen pipkin with rain water and a few cochineals, boil them three-quarters of an hour. The feathers best adapted for being dyed this colour are the dark buff hackles from a common cock's

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neck; they make excellent legs for the red britches and some of the salmon-flies.

TO DYE GUT A CHESNUT COLOUR.

Take a handful of logwood shavings and boil it in rain water, and when nearly cold, steep in your gut, but you must not let it stay in long or it will become too dark; or you may boil red onion pealings, which will answer the same purpose.

TO DYE WHITE HORSE HAIR BROWN.

Take the first runnings from new malt liquor and steep your hair therein; but if you can obtain pale chesnut and fine transparent grey horse hair it will be much better than any you can dye.

TO STAIN RODS.

To stain rods a cinnamon-colour, cover the rod over with aquafortis, and after it has stood awhile wash it over with cold water, and let it dry.—To stain a brown-colour, dissolve a little iron in the aquafortis.—To stain a mahogany-colour, dissolve a little brass in the liquor.

TO MAKE A VARNISH FOR RODS.

To a gill of alcohol put four ounces of shell-lac, two ounces of seed-lac, and a quarter of an ounce of resin; let them be dissolved cold, and they will make an excellent varnish.

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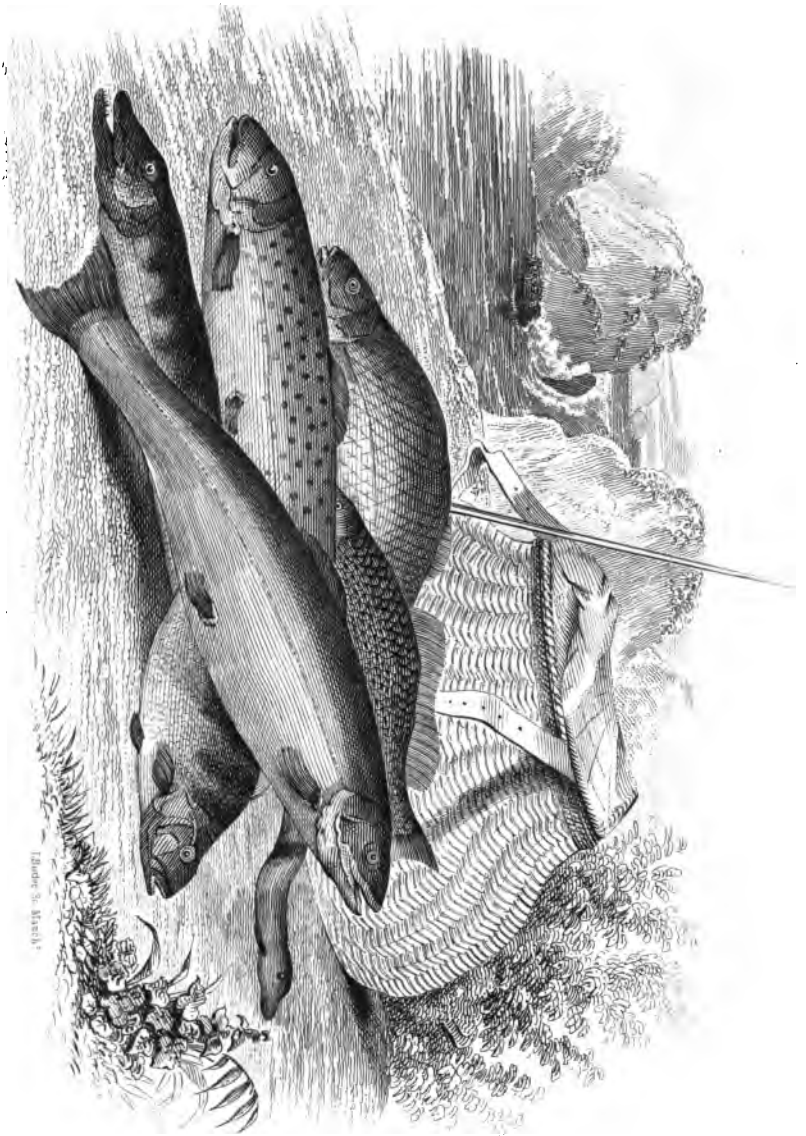

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LINES

ADDRESSED TO THE AUTHOR BY A GENTLEMAN OF MACCLESFIELD.

My friend, for friend I hold him who,
Votery of Isaac Walton true,
Can write on streams and choice of flies,
Of colours bright and mingled dyes.

Need I assure you, Sir, that I,
Since I could throw, have lov'd a fly;
Or that for pike and river trout,
I've always kept a sharp look out?

Needs it to tell, that, ere the sun
Has half its annual circle run,
With rod in hand and brimful heart,
I for the river's margin start?

And mark what time the dark blue dun,
Its dusky wings waves in the sun,
For then I know that sport is rife—
The essence of the sportman's life.

O men of hope!—a partridge rump
Is plucked to wing the freckled stump;
In due succession next come down,
The iron blue and dark March brown.

The husk and greentail next appear,
Disporting on the waters clear;
The yellow dun and grey sand fly—
Ill-fated tribes!—their care must ply.

Nor ply in vain, for oft the trout,
Is springing with his eager snout,
And seizing on his destin'd prey,
Then backward makes his sullen way.

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Now cast your line a yard above,
If deftly done his mood 'twill prove,
And if you throw direct, not crook'd,
'Tis ten to one the beggar's hook'd.

Now comes the time your skill to prove,
For if with hasty steps you move,
Sure as a gun your victim 'scapes,
By tugging sheer, or else by breaks.

But you must temper him;—in fine,
Give him due length of rod and line,
But not too much; for if you do,
It rather will untemper you.

And think not at an end your sport,
Until he's fairly 'twod' in port;
Nor yet in strictness may you own him,
Till in the pannier you have thrown him.

And here, appropos, I may tell,
An incident myself befel.
While fishing on the banks of Dane,
There came a drenching shower of rain;

On this, my line, I 'gan to heave,
Thinking with haste the scene to leave,
When lo! a check without a rise,
Told me I'd hook'd a noble prize.

Soon as I found how matters stood,
I slack'd my line of horse hair good,
Keeping however so tight a hand,
As serv'd to keep him in command.

'Twas long to tell what crafty art,
Evinced as slow I played my part;
Suffice to say, the fish was ta'en,
While down in torrents fell the rain.

I raised him, nor a thought once crost me
How dearly had his capture cost me;
When sudden it came to my mind,
My pannier I had left behind.

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But this did naught avail the trout,
For quick as thought I pull'd him out,
And then for lack of better cover,
I stowed him safely in my beaver;

When taking up my rod with glee,
A circumstance I failed to see;—
My line, which down the stream the while
Had floated, hook'd upon a pile.

The pile, to all appearance, sound.
And firmly bedded in the ground,
Was standing on a sloping ledge,
A distance from the water's edge.

Thinking it well might me uphold,
To place my hand on't I made bold;
But scarce an ounce required to show,
The rottenness of all below.

A crash ensued, and quick as thought,
I headlong to the stream was brought.
And but that of the bank I'd hold,
In sooth I had been fairly sold.

As 'twas, I only got a fright,
And soon recovering, all was right;
When looking round, as in a dream,
My hat was floating down the stream.

Where is the fish? was my next thought—
The fish I had so lately caught—
The unlucky cause of my disaster—
And how shall I regain my castor?

The rest's soon told:—the fish went down,
And, tho' I'd e'en ha' giv'n a crown,
Had it been brought me safe and sound,
I verily believe that it was drown'd.

My hat was scarce in better plight,
And on my head felt somewhat tight;
And for myself, a word, a letter,
Would be too much—the less the better.

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Now all you sporting blades may glean,
From this it is not safe to lean,
At all times o'er a stake or pile,
Lest you, as I, should lose your tile.

But wisely con the chances o'er—
Precipitance oft proves a bore—
And from the adage much you'll reap,
"Always look before you leap."

And never in your zeal forego,
Discretion's maxim—"Sure, tho' slow;"
These not attending, 'gainst my wish,
Had nearly made me food for fish.

LINES

BY THE AUTHOR IN ANSWER TO THE ABOVE.

Sir, in reply to you, I write, wishing you merry cheer,
Certainly I must allow it's a dull time of the year
To write or think of angling as the season now is o'er;
Ne'ertheless we'll have a chat of what has been done before,
For many pleasant hours we've spent beneath th' embowering shade,
Oft made the fly, and tap'd the flask, within the silent glade.

And yet thoughts of old mother Dane still occupies my pate,
For some of her bright spangled trout look well upon a plate,
In a wicker creel, or trencher, or on a table spread;
But a fish you must allow would look shocking on your head;
Your coat pocket I should think, would hold the trout much faster,
Than in the flimsy lining of any slap-up castor.

You wrote to me of slippery piles which line the river Dane,
To protect those verdant flowery banks from the liquid plain;
You tell me they are insecure, and some of rotten wood,
For as you disengaged your line they pitch'd you in the flood.
I laugh'd to think how you'd look as your fish i'th' water sunk,
I smiling thought within myself surely the man was drunk.

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Now that advice which in your note you kindly sent to me,
You bid me look before I leap, to keep from danger free,
And that I must be slow, tho' sure, to save myself a ducking;
I must stand, I suppose, whilst fish at my flies are plucking;—
But that would never do for me, I am too old a hand,—
I say we must be quick and sure to bring them to the land.

And as to "look before we leap," there must be some mistake,
For if we did we should be like poor Sannock on the stake.
Oft have I seen those sober souls every caution use,
As they have stepped from stone to stone, that they might safely choose,
Which next to set their foot upon, to keep their stockings dry,
And yet they've floundered in the pool and made the waters fly.

When next to the Dane you go, take your landing net and reel,
Your rod, your line, your pocket-book, likewise your wicker creel;
If some of these you should forget, when you've been there a while,
You probably may have cause again to use your tile.
All that I now have got to say—think of your former plight—
'Tis late, and I have boozy got, so now I bid good night.

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ENGLAND.

CHAPTER 3.—A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE PRINCIPAL RIVERS IN ENGLAND, IRELAND, SCOTLAND AND WALES.

THE rivers in England are calculated to be about four or five hundred; and it would be superfluous here to treat particularly of their diversities and situations.

The rivers in BEDFORDSHIRE are the Ouse and Ivel; they produce pike, perch, eels, and an abundance of common fish.

There are also the Isis and Kennet in BERKSHIRE; the former rises in Gloucestershire, and with other streams form the Thames, famous for trout.

The chief rivers in BUCKINGHAMSHIRE are the Thames, Ouse, Tame and Colne; trout, pike, perch, and many other good fish are to be found in these rivers.

In the Ouse and Cam in CAMBRIDGESHIRE are to be found pike and perch.

The principal rivers in CHESHIRE are the Mersey, the Dee, and the Woval; the first of these divides Cheshire from Lancashire; the second rises in North Wales, and the third springs up in Shropshire; in these rivers are to be found salmon, salmon-trout, trout, perch, dace, bream, eels, and pike. There are many other small rivers that abound with trout which run through and border on this county.

The rivers in CORNWALL are the Tamar, the Camel, the Fale, the Fowey, the Cobor, and the Looe; they abound with salmon, trout, and many other fish.

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The rivers in CUMBERLAND are the Eden, the Solway-frith, the Petterel, the Couda, or Cowd, and the Derwent; all these rivers abound with salmon, trout, and almost every other kind of fish.

DERBYSHIRE has several fine rivers, among the principal of which are the Derwent, the Dove, the Wye, and the Erwash; all these rivers end in the Trent, and are noted for the quantity and quality of the trout and greyling.

DEVONSHIRE is well watered by several fine rivers, and abundance of small streams; the principal rivers are the AX, the Tamar, the EX, the Columb, the Loman, the Towridge, the Taw, the Tavy, and the Dart; these rivers abound with salmon and trout, and contain uncommon quantities of other fish.

The chief rivers in DORSETSHIRE are the Stour or Stower, which rises in Somersetshire, but soon enters this county, the Froom, the Piddle, and Wey; these rivers produce trout, tench, and eels.

The chief rivers in DURHAM are the Wear and Tees; these rivers produce salmon, trout, and plenty of common fish.

The rivers of ESSEX are the Stour, the Lea, which runs into the Thames, a little below Stratford, the Blackwater, the Chalme, and the Colne; what few fish are in these rivers are pike, perch, chub, roach, dace, gudgeon, and barbel.

The principal rivers in GLOUCESTERSHIRE are the Severn, which is a beautiful river and second only to the Thames, the Wye, the Stroud, the Avon, and Isis;

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these rivers produce plenty of fine fish and abundance of salmon.

The principal rivers in HAMPSHIRE are the AVON, which comes down from Salisbury, bringing with it all the waters of the south and east parts of Wiltshire, and receiving also the Stour and the Piddle, two Dorsetshire rivers—there are also the Tese, the Wye and the Itching; the principal fish are salmon, salmon-trout, trout, and mullet.

The rivers in HEREFORDSHIRE are the Wye, the Lug, the Arrow, the Monow, the Frome, and the Diffrin-doe, the last of which is the only river of the county which does not rise in Wales; they abound in salmon, salmon-trout, trout, greyling, and almost every other species of river fish.

Many small rivers water the county of HERTFORDSHIRE, but the principal ones are the Lea and the Colne, in which trout and other fish abound.

The chief rivers of HUNTINGDONSHIRE are the Nyne or Nen, and the Ouse; they produce pike, perch, eels, and abundance of other fish.

The Medway is the chief river of KENT (besides the Thames), and produces fish of several kinds, the river Thames passes this county at Greenwich; near Westram rises nine considerable springs, which form the river Dart; there are also the rivers Len and Tunn; The last of which runs into the Medway near Tunbridge, and the river Stour, which affords plenty of trout.

The chief rivers in LANCASHIRE are the Mersey the Ribble, the Darron, the Lun, the Wire, the Roch,

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the Irwell, and the Colder, the latter runs into Yorkshire; these rivers afford pleanty of fish, except the Irwell, which is spoiled by the different works built upon its banks.

The chief rivers in LEICESTERSHIRE are the Soar, the Avon, the Wreke, the Anker, the Swift, and the Welland; the sportsman will meet with good diversion a distance from the towns—the farther off the better.

The chief rivers in LINCOLNSHIRE are the Trent, the Welland, the Witham, the Nen, and the Aukam; they afford plenty of salmon, trout, eels and other fish.

The chief river in MIDDLESEX is the Thames, which is a compound of two rivers,—viz., the Isis and the Thame; the former rises in Gloucestershire, the latter in Buckinghamshire, they unite their names with their streams in Oxfordshire, and from thence are called by the single name of "Thames;" it joins the midway in the mouth of the British ocean; they produce large quantities of fish, such as dace, roach, trout, pike, perch, carp, chub, barbel, flounders, gudgeon, and eels, and a few salmon. In the river Colne, near Uxbridge, are some good trout and eels.

The chief rivers in MONMOUTHSHIRE are the Wye, the Usk, the Rumney, the Monnow, the Severn, the Ebwith, the Trothy, the Lug, and the Gavenny; all these rivers abound with fish of various kinds, amongst which are salmon, trout, and greyling. The Lug is most noted for greyling.

The principal rivers in NORFOLK are the Ouse, the

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Waveney, the Yare, the Thyrn, and the Duze; these rivers produce fish of almost every kind.

The principal rivers in NORTHAMPTONSHIRE are the Nen, the Nynes, the Wreke, and the Welland; it is also partly watered by the Ouse, the Charwell, and the Leam. In these rivers may be found trout, perch, pike, and other fish.

The principal rivers in NORTHUMBERLAND are the South Tyne, the North Tyne, the Tweed, the Cocket, the Wentsback, and the Alne; all these rivers abound with fish, particularly salmon.

The chief rivers in NOTTINGHAMSHIRE are the Trent, which has its rise in Staffordshire, receives thirty smaller rivers, and which produces thirty kinds of fish, the Erwash and the Idle—the Trent is famous for angling.

The principal rivers in OXFORDSHIRE are the Isis, the Tame, the Windrush, the Charwell, and the Evenload, besides the Thames: all these rivers produce trout, pike, perch, eels, and abundance of other fish.

The chief rivers in RUTLANDSHIRE are the Welland and the Wash, besides various smaller rivers; they have a plentiful supply of good fish.

The chief river in SHROPSHIRE is the Severn, and it contains abundance of salmon-trout, trout, greyling, pike, perch, carp, chub, dace, roach, ruffs, gudgeon, flounders, eels, salmon-fry, and many other fish; there are also in this county the rivers Tame and Weval, Terney-brook and Lee-brook, which afford trout, greyling, pike, perch and eels.

The rivers in SOMERSETSHIRE, besides the mouth of

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the Severn, are the Avon, the Brent, the Parret, the Yeovil, the Tome, the Brews, the Parr, and the Ivel; these rivers produce trout and other good fish.

The chief rivers in STAFFORDSHIRE are the Trent, the Sow, and the Ecclashall-water, the Dove, which forms the boundary between this county and Derbyshire, and the Tame; these rivers contain abundance of fish of almost every kind.

The chief rivers of SUFFOLK are the Debn, the Orwell, the Waveney, the Stour, the Ald, the Blyth, the Larke, and the Breton; most of these rivers contain fish of different kinds, particularly eels.

The chief rivers in Surrey, besides the Thames, are the Mole, the Wey, and the Wandle; these are excellent rivers for trout, particularly the Wandle.

The chief rivers in SUSSEX, (besides the Midway,) are the Arun, the Adur, the Ouse, the Rother, the Crook, and the Lavant; these rivers are rather well stored with fish of different kinds.

The chief rivers in WARWICKSHIRE are the Avon, the Tame, the Blyth, the Arrow, the Anker, the Cole, and the Sherburn; there are many fine fish in some of these rivers, particularly in the Avon.

The chief rivers of WESTMORLAND are the Eden, the Lone, the Ken, and the Lowther; there is also that famed water called the Winander-meer, noted for the quality of its fish, particularly the gilt char: all the rivers abound with trout and salmon.

The principal rivers in WILTSHIRE are the Upper and Lower Avon, the Nadder, the Willy, the Bourne, and the

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Kennel; these rivers abound with trout, greyling, and othe fine fish.

The principal rivers of WORCESTERSHIRE are the Severn, the Tame, the Avon, the Salwarp, and the Stour; these rivers supply large quantities of salmon, salmon-trout, greyling, and most other river fish.

The rivers of YORKSHIRE are the Trent, the Ouse, the Derwent, the Umber, the Dun, the Aire, the Calder, the Wharfe, the Swaile, the Rother, the Ure, the Hull, the Tees, the Ribble, and the Rhy, there is also a small but rapid stream called Duffield-beck, which produces fine trout; most of these rivers produce salmon, salmon-trout, chub, pike, trout, perch and eels.

NORTH WALES.

The chief rivers in the isle of ANGLESEY are the Brant, the Mineu, the Alow, and the Keveny; there is a great store of fine fish in these rivers, particularly salmon-trout —these run up the rivers from the sea in great numbers all the summer.

The chief river in CARNARVONSHIRE is the Canway, though there are several other small rivers excellent for angling in.

The chief rivers in DENBIGHSHIRE are the Clwyd, the Elway, and the Dee; in these rivers I have found salmon, trout, pike perch, dace, bream, ruff, eels, and many other fish.

The chief rivers in FLINTSHIRE are the Elway, the Dee,

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the Clwyd, and the Alen; all of which afford good trout and all other fish.

The principal rivers in MERIONETHSHIRE are the Drurydh, the Avon, and the Dee; the Dee rises in this county and passes through a lake called Pemble-meer, a large water, which abounds with a much-esteemed fish called "guiniad," and yet there are not any found in the river; the Dee is possessed of salmon, yet there are not any found in the lake. All these rivers produce plenty of fish, particularly of the salmon and trout kinds.

The rivers of MONTGOMERYSHIRE are the Rhydel, the Wye, the Tenat, the Wurway, and the Turgh, together with other small rivers that fall into the Severn; all of which afford fine sport to the angler.

SOUTH WALES.

The chief rivers in BRECKNOCKSHIRE are the Usk, the Wye, the Irvon, the Tavey, and the Rumney; these rivers afford salmon and trout, There is a large water in the middle of the county called brecknock-mere, which is full of fish.

The chief rivers in CARMARTHENSHIRE are the Towy, the Cotley, the Teivy, and the Keach; these rivers have fine trout, salmon, salmon-trout, and other good fish.

The chief rivers in CARDIGANSHIRE are the Towy, the Teivy, the Rhydel, and the Istwyth; these rivers produce plenty of salmon and other fish.

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The chief rivers in GLAMORGANSHIRE are the Avon, Rumney, Agmore Tavey, and the Elri; these rivers have a great variety of good fish.

The chief rivers in RADNORSHIRE are the Temd, the Wye, the Ithon, and the Somergill, besides a great number of other streams, all of which abound with excellent trout and greyling, and many other fish, and they are very good waters to angle in.

The chief rivers in PEMBROKESHIRE are the Teivy, the Clethy, the Dugledye, and the Cledhewen; all these are good trout rivers.

SCOTLAND.

The principal rivers of ABERDEENSHIRE are the Dee, the Don, the Deveron, and the Bogie; these rivers produce salmon, trout, and other fish of the salmon kind in great abundance.

The chief rivers in AYRSHIRE are the Aire, the Coil, the Irvin, the Stincher, and the Girven; these rivers afford fine salmon and trout,

In the county of INVERARY there are many fine lochs; one called Loch-aw, is between twenty and thirty miles long: there issues from it a river called Aw, which after a few miles enters Loch-celiff. These lochs are full of fish.

There are also several rivers in the ISLE OF ARRAN which abound with salmon and trout.

The chief rivers in BANFFSHIRE are the Spey, the

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Dovern, and the Ugie; these rivers abound with salmon and other fish.

The chief rivers in BERWICKSHIRE are the Tweed, the Lauder, the Eye, the Black Adder, and the White Adder; all these produce many kinds of fish in abundance.

The river or water Thurso in BUTESHIRE and CAITHNESS is famous for salmon.

There are numbers of other rivers and lochs in this part of the country that produce abundance of fish.

The principal rivers in DUMBARTONSHIRE are the Clyde and the Leven; they produce salmon, trout, perch, ells, &c.

The chief rivers in DUMFRIESHIRE are the Annan and the Neith; there are also many fine trout-streams which run into these rivers. They abound with excellent salmon and trout.

The chief rivers in Mid-lothian are the Leith and the Esk; there are also several others, wherein there is good angling for trout.

The chief rivers in ELGINSHIRE are the Spey, the Tay, the Ness, the Eawic, and the Lossie; all which rivers have salmon in abundance. There are also the Loch-garif and the Loch-ness.

The chief rivers in FIFESHRIE are the Forth, the Tay, the Edin, and the Leven, which flow from Loch-leven at Kinross; the rivers abound with excellent salmon, and the Loch with trout from four to fourteen pounds in weight.

The chief rivers in FORFARSHIRE are the Tay, the North Esk, and the South Esk; these rivers produce

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salmon, trout, and a fish called "white trout," and by some called "whitlings," which take the fly extremely well,

The principal rivers of HADDINGTONSHIRE are the Firth and the Tyne; there is good angling for trout in these rivers.

The chief river in INVERNESS is the Ness, wherein are taken large salmon and greater quantities of trout than in any other river in Scotland.

The principal rivers in KINCARDINESHIRE are the Dee, and the North Esk, which I have spoken of before.

The chief rivers of LOWER GALLOWAY are the Nith, the Dee, and the Ken, together with several smaller rivers, all of which produce fine trout.

The principal rivers in LANARKSHIRE are the Annan, the Clyde, the Tweed, and the Douglas; these rivers produce good fish.

The principal rivers in NAIRNSHIRE are the Nairn, and the Galder, with several others of less note, all of which produce plenty of good trout, salmon, and other fish.

The chief rivers in PEEBLESHIRE are the Tweed and the Yarrow; these rivers produce good fish of various kinds,

The chief river of PERTHSHIRE is the Tay; it is a fine rapid river, and takes its name from Loch-tay: it runs through the heart of Scotland, taking in its course the rivers Ern, Timel and Keith. This river abounds with salmon and trout.

The chief rivers in RENFREWSHIRE are the Clyde, the

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White Cart, and the Black Cart; these rivers produce trout and perch.

The county of Ross abounds with lochs and rivers, which produce great quantities of fish, the principal of which are herrings and cod; and there is good angling in the rivers at a distance from the sea.

The chief rivers of ROXBURGHSHIRE are the Tweed, the Tefy, and the Jed; the angler may find good sport in these rivers.

The chief rivers in SELKIRKSHIRE are the Ettrick, the Yarrow, and the Galla-water; these rivers produce eels and other fish.

The principle rivers of STIRLINGSHIRE are the Forth and the Allan; these rivers abound with salmon and trout.

The county of SUTHERLAND has a great many rivers and lochs which abound with salmon, trout, eels, and other sea fish.

WIGTONSHIRE has many rivers and lochs which abound with good fish, particularly eels.

Most of the rivers of Scotland are clear and full of large stones and rocks.

IRELAND

Has numerous rivers and lochs, all of which abound with fish of many kinds Some of the principal rivers are the Shannon, (which produces large quantities of salmon, trout, pike, perch, and eels); the Saire, the Near, and the Barrow, which produce salmon, trout, and many

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other good fish; there are also the rivers Kilmachow, Suire, Blackwater, Bayne, Bann, and Lee—these rivers produce good salmon and trout. There are likewise the rivers Liffy, Castle-knock, Nure, Slaine, May, Suck, Drosos, and Gall; these rivers produce salmon, trout, pike, and eels. There are also the rivers Flesk, Lane, Swilly, Logan-water, Newry-water, and many smaller rivers and rivulets, which abound with fish of various kinds; and, indeed, there are both in Great Britain and Ireland inumerable small rivers and brooks which will afford the angler as much diversion as many of the larger rivers. You will find several rivers of the same name in different counties, and others with names much similar.

THE ANGLER'S HOME.

In an ivy bound cot near a sheltering wood,
On the brink of a murmuring rill,
There I ever would dwell, for I'd haste to the flood,
E're bright Sol had o'ertopt the brown hill,
Where the woodbine and jessamin friendly do twine,
And the blue-bell and daffodil grow,
I'd away to the stream with my rod and my line,
When the south or the western winds blow.

ADDRESSED TO A FRIEND, JANUARY 9TH, 1844.

The hard'ning ground and cutting wind,
To angling gives no zest—
Of congeal'd water here I find.
The rivers are possess'd.

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My rod and basket I've laid by,
  My furs and feathers too;
I never thought to make a fly,
  Though I'd little else to do.
My book with mould is cover'd o'er,
  As it neglected lies;
The moths as they the leaves explore,
  Make havoc with the flies.
Nor in the morn the lark we hear,
  As through the air he flies—
No cookoo's note the vallies cheer—
  For chilling looks the skies.
But when these storms are wafted by,
  And buds are springing out,
Then to the waters we will hie,
  To kill the speckled trout.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE WEATHER.

WHEN the sun rises red and fiery, wind and rain are sure to follow.—When the sun appears white at setting, or goes down into a rock of clouds, which lie in the horizon, it is a sign of bad weather.—If the moon and stars become dim in the night, with the like haziness in the air, and a ring or halo round the moon, rain will ensue.—If the moon at her rising looks pale and dim, expect rain; if red, it is a sign of wind; and if white and the sky clear, it is a sign of fair weather.—When the clouds are formed like fleeces and very white at the edges, either hail, snow, or hasty showers of rain will soon follow,—When a fiery redness, together with a ruggedness of the clouds, extends towards the zenith in an evening, it is a sure sign of speedy

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rain, and is often attended with a flood.—If the wind blows from the south, south-west, or west, on the twentieth, twenty-first, and the twenty-second of March, June, September, or December, rain will prevail most of that quarter; if from the east, north, or north-east, you may depend upon fair weather.

"Whene'er, dear brothers, you shall go to fish,
I wish you sport to take a handsome dish
Of carp, tench, pike, perch, dace or roach,
By angling fair—I pray you never poach,
But first, good Sirs, a useful lesson take,
From a brother bob, an angling rake—
Before you quit your home look round and think,
If all your traps are right—with cash for meat and drink;
Flies, worms, gentles, and paste you must provide
Good lines, floats, plummets, and spare hooks besides;—
And when your sport is done, bear this in mind,
Look well about that nought is left behind."

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